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LIFTING OF ARGENTINE-U.K. SANCTIONS EXPECTED

PY131344 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1325 GMT 13 Sep 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 13 Sep (NA) -- Foreign Ministry sources reported a few minutes ago that the Economy Ministry will have the responsibility of soon announcing the lifting of the economic sanctions mutually imposed by Argentina and Great Britain during the Malvinas war. The official San Martin Palace spokesman declined to make any further comments and referred the newsmen to the Economy Ministry, thus giving direct confirmation of the news coming from London.

London has just officially announced that the sanctions have been lifted after negotiations carried out during the IMF meeting in Toronto, Canada. Diplomatic sources suggested that the decision has the intention of not compromising the Argentine diplomatic effort at the United Nations over the Malvinas question or to obstruct the economic negotiations at the IMF.

[Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish at 1600 GMT on 13 September reported that "the Central Bank of the Republic of Argentina has received a communication from the Bank of England proposing the lifting of the financial restrictions imposed during the conflict over the Malvinas Islands. The Central Bank is now studying the course to be taken regarding this question."]

Economy Ministry Communique

PY140121 Buenos Aires Argentina Televisora Color in Spanish 0000 GMT 14 Sep 82

[Text] There have been many rumors going the rounds which "60 Minutos" [name of news program] does not intend to disseminate pertaining to economic relations with Great Britain. Instead of echoing these rumors, we have at hand a communique released by the Economy Ministry, which must be read thoroughly.

The first point: The Bank of England has sent a note to the Argentine Central Bank proposing the lifting of the financial restrictions that were applied as a result of the Malvinas conflict.

Second point: The Bank of England has asked the Argentine Central Bank for reciprocity regarding the lifting of the sanctions that were implemented by the Argentine Government.

Third point: This spontaneous proposal by the Government of Great Britain is not the outcome of any type of prior agreement with our government.

Fourth point of the Economy Ministry communique: As a result of this proposal, the Argentine Central Bank is studying various alternatives.

Fifth point: These circumstances can create better conditions for negotiations within the United Nations regarding the Malvinas problem, especially in the European sector. And the [Bank of England] proposal can be the cause of a positive reaction for internal reactivation and can also improve conditions for the refinancing of the foreign debt.

Sixth point: That the study or an eventual resolution on this proposal has nothing to do with a formal cessation of hostilities, and in no way alters the maintaining of other measures that are in full force.

Seventh point: Argentina's answer will be based on the interests that are most advantageous for the country.

And finally, any other information or report regarding this event is null and void, because this ministry, the Economy Ministry, only responsible source for this type of information.

ECONOMY MINISTRY MEASURES ON PRICE READJUSTMENTS

PY132326 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0013 GMT 13 Sep 82

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 12 Sep (NA) -- Two resolutions disclosed by the economy ministry tonight establish that the leading enterprises will have to justify their price increases 10 days before implementing them and that they will only be able to raise prices if they do not receive notification from the Commerce Secretariat prohibiting the increases. The enterprises will have to submit a detailed report of their cost structures as of 30 June 1982 and their subsequent evolution, pointing out their composition as regards national and imported inputs, costs of labor, social benefits, and domestic and foreign financing.

Enterprise price increase notices -- which they will have to make through a sworn statement -- cannot be submitted unless 30 consecutive days have elapsed between increases.

This new system, which was implemented through Resolutions 45 and 46, which were disclosed last night, also establishes that for the first price adjustment to be authorized the enterprises will have to absorb 5 percent of the highest reported costs. At the same time, it is ordered that the Central Bank adopt "corrective measures" of a financial nature for those enterprises which do not comply with the new rules.

These measures virtually cancel the "price agreement" which former Economy Minister Jose Dagnino Pastore's team attempted to implement.

In view of the Economy Ministry's Resolution 45, a group of some 500 enterprises -- considered "leading enterprises" -- which plan to make adjustments on their 11 September prices, should notify the Commerce Secretariat of that decision through a sworn statement.

Moreover, it is established that for the approval of higher production costs stemming from the use of national inputs, the name of the enterprise from which the inputs were purchased must be reported. The purchasing enterprise should inform the Commerce Secretariat if the supplying enterprise refuses to provide the information. The enterprise purchasing national inputs will not be able to implement new prices until the corresponding authorization is granted.

In their first notification of price increases, leading enterprises will have to agree to absorb 5 percent of the highest reported costs prevailing between the base date [government chose 30 June 1982 prices as base date for negotiations on price agreement] and the date of the sworn statement. It is established that this absorption will only apply once, and that it should be taken into account in further notifications. The purpose of this measure is "to avoid loading the prices with part of the salary increases officially ordered up to that date."

In their notifications, the enterprises should detail the cost structure and price evolution of at least 80 percent of their total sales of products destined for the domestic market during the past 12 months. This excludes non-standard goods production and those sold through bids. It also excludes medicines, which will continue to be adjusted in compliance with the system implemented for this field.

In view of the new system for the control of price adjustments, the Commerce Secretariat will have to authorize the sale prices for new products. It is also established that those leading enterprises which trade products thorugh their own distributors should give notification within the next 10 days of the legal name and address of their distributors as well as of the volume of goods which have been traded through them.

The last point of Resolution 45 establishes that the leading enterprises are liable to punishment under the supply law for not complying with the measures of the new system. Nevertheless, Resolution 46, which was issued simultaneously, establishes that the enterprises which do not comply with the control of price adjustments are liable for "corrective measures of a financial nature" to be ordered by the Central Bank.

It can be surmised that, in the case of enterprises which had joined the "price agreement" at the appropriate time, such "corrective measures" will eliminate rebate benefits which were granted at that time and will impose higher differential interest rates for refinancing debts and contracting new credits.

No Major Devaluation

PY132210 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 12 Sep 82 p 13

[Excerpt] Economy Minister Jorge Wehbe said last night that there will be no major devaluation of the peso in the next few days and promised that the government would not take "earth-shaking" exonomic steps. Following a three-and-a-half hour meeting with President Reynaldo Bignone, Wehbe also said Argentina must unify its exchange market and fight inflation, not because of any "condition" set by the International Monetary Fund (IMF), but because these steps must be taken "without a doubt."

"We realize," Wehbe said "that our economic plan eventually will be studied by the IMF," but added that the government will try to implement these measures "with or without the IMF." He said Argentina has notified the IMF of its general intentions for an economic plan, adding that such a plan will have to involve the participation of all the country's social sectors. He refused to say whether the General Confederation of Labour (CGT) would be included in this process.

Wehbe refused "for obvious reasons," to say whether or not Argentina will ask the IMF for a "standby" loan, adding that the country's foreign debt "is serious...but not dramatic."

Meanwhile, the government announced last night that Argentina's delegation to the IMF has proposed an economic programme "aimed at the refinancing of the foreign debt" within the "traditional norms of good behaviour that have characterized Argentina." "This solution has as its guiding principle the reactivation of (industrial) production," an official statement read. "The country's great inactive resources, once put in motion, will help to considerably in achieving these objectives," it said.

Exchange Rate Adjustment

PY131841 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 13 Sep 82

[Text] The Economy Ministry has ordered a 5-percent adjustment of the commercial exchange rate. The commercial dollar, which was worth 25,570 pesos at the closing hour last Friday, went up to 26,850 pesos this morning. This is an increase of exactly 5 percent in comparison with the earlier daily adjustments which were close to 0.5 percent. Meanwhile, on the financial exchange market, the dollar for transfers opened with its usual rate of 38,950 for buyers and 39,000 for sellers.

MID LEADERS PRESENT DEMANDS TO PRESIDENT

PY132138 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 11 Sep 82 p 9

[Text] (NA) -- The Integration and Development Party (MID) yesterday called on President Reynaldo Bignone to change the government's socio-economic policy, disclose the fate of those who disappeared during the military's campaign against terrorism, and reveal what underlay Argentina's decision to seize the Malvinas Islands on April 2.

The MID, headed by former President Arturo Frondizi, also demanded that those responsible for the country's current economic crisis be put on trial, that general elections be held without proscriptions or preconditions, and that the restrictions on labour unions activity be lifted.

The extensive list of demands was contained in a document MID leaders presented to Bignone and Interior Minister Llamil Reston during a meeting between the party and government officials in the presidential residence at Olivos. The statement called it "unacceptable" that the Bignone administration "must limit itself to administering the crisis" because workers, professionals and businessmen "cannot wait for elections" to reverse "a painful socio-economic situation." "Nor can the country wait collectively," the MID statement said, pointing out that the country is "burdened by a heavy foreign debt and the risk of a social explosion."

BEAGLE NEGOTIATOR DEPARTS FOR ROME 13 SEP

PY140219 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2105 GMT 13 Sep 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 13 Sep (NA) — Carlos Ortiz de Rozas, the head of the negotiating mission to the Vatican, asserted here today, just before departing for Rome, that the solution to the border dispute with Chile will not be adopted "behind the backs of the people." He also indicated that the solution to the dispute over the Beagle Channel may be achieved before the government is handed over to the next constitutional government.

Ortiz de Rozas departed this afternoon at 1700 from Ezeiza Airport to participate in another round of negotiations on the 100-year-old border dispute over the Beagle Channel. He reiterated that during the course of this week, "if no problems emerge, and it is my opinion that they will not," Argentina and Chile will formalize an agreement, at the suggestion of the pope, that will keep the negotiations regarding the border dispute within the framework of the papal mediation. "This agreement," hesaid, recalling remarks made by Papal Delegate Cardinal Antonio Samore, "will permit us to continue negotiating the main point of the problem without being pushed and without deadlines."

He was asked if it was possible that a solution could be achieved before the next constitutional government is installed, and answered: "I do not know whether it will be before or after that dealine: March 1984, which is the date that the government has agreed to hand over power. The only thing I can tell you is that we are not going to lose time. We want," he asserted, "a solution to this dispute as quickly as possible, and although deadlines cannot be set because their are two parties negotiating, it could well be that the problem will be resolved before 1984." Moreover, he made it clear that the Argentine and Chilean Governments "are making efforts to find a solution that will be feasible for the two countries," and stated: "On our part, no matter the type of solution that is achieved, it will not be adopted behind the backs of the people."

In this respect, Ortiz de Rozas revealed that Foreign Ministry officials have lately been holding meetings with several political parties, which he did not identify, "to give them detailed information" regarding the progress of the papal mediation. "I repeat," the diplomat concluded, "what I have already told the president (Reynaldo Bignone), and that is, the solution that is achieved must be put to the people and political leaders."

TRADE AGREEMENT TO BE SIGNED WITH CUBA

PY131335 Paris AFP in Spanish 1947 GMT 12 Sep 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 12 Sep (AFP) -- It was learned from official sources today that Argentina will sign a trade agreement with Cuba as a result of the meetings held in Buenos Aires with a Cuban official delegation headed by Irma Sanchez Valdes, president of the State Committee for Technical Supply.

The meetings were held within the framework of exchange agreements signed in 1973, the first year of the constitutional Peronist government -- after 8 years of a de facto military government -- which allowed the export of Argentine industrialized products to Cuba for the total of $170 million. After the military coup in 1976, the trade exchange continued to drop until 1981, when Argentina placed almost $80 million worth of goods in Cuba.

At present, 80 percent of the Argentine shipments to Cuba are comprised of primary products and manufactured agrarian products. The remaining 20 percent are industrialized products.

GOVERNMENT APPROVES RECOMMENDATIONS ON ANTARCTIC

PY140011 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1535 GMT 13 Sep 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 13 Sep (TELAM) -- The national executive branch, through Decree No 520 issued today, has approved the recommendations made by the 11th consultative meeting on the Antarctic treaty. The meeting took place in this capital in mid-1981 with the participation of the representatives of the 14 countries that signed the treaty and coincided with the 20th anniversary of the treaty's implementation.

The recommendations that were approved dealt with Antarctic mineral resources, the Antarctic sealife and the airplane disaster on Mount Erebus in which 257 persons were killed. Regarding mineral resources, it was recommended that a special consultative meeting be held to draw up a program on technical issues of the environment. It was also recommended that the member countries do their utmost to enforce the convention on the preservation of Antarctic sealife, which was signed in Australia in 1980, as soon as possible.

The last recommendation requests that the governments declare the place where a plane transporting a group of tourists crashed on the northern slope of Mount Erebus, Ross Island, as a memorial to the dead. The bodies of many were never found.

INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION MEETING OPENS

PY131332 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1030 GMT 13 Sep 82

[Text] The first meeting of legal experts and the fourth meeting of experts in airborne transportation will open at 1000 today. The ceremony will be addressed by Commander of Air Regions Col Hector Rene Roig. The meetings will be attended by Argentine, Bolivian, Brazilian, Cuban, Chilean, Ecuadorean, Guatemalan, Paraguayan, Peruvian, Uruguayan and Venezuelan delegates. Divided into two working groups, these delegates will meet until Friday within the framework of the Latin American Commission for Civil Aviation.

BRIEFS

TELEVISION STATION CLOSED -- Neuquen, 9 Sep (NA) -- The Federal Broadcasting Council (Comfer) has decided to close television Channel 3 of the city of Zapala, located 200 km from Neuquen. Comfer Chairman Gen Rodolfo Feroglio has informed the authorities of the electricity cooperative of Zapala that the Neuquen government authorities' contention that television Channel 3 ought not to be closed because Zapala had no other television channel is no longer valid. Zapala currently receives through a repeater the programs which are being aired by the television station of Neuquen City. [Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1645 GMT 9 Sep 82 PY]

EGYPTIAN MINISTER VISITS PROVINCE -- Muhammad 'Abd al-Fattah Ibrahim, Egyptian minister of irrigation, has visited San Juan Province to inspect the provincial irrigation system. [Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 2000 GMT 10 Sep 82 PY]

FOREIGN MINISTER BRIEFS CABINET ON LOANS

PY131556 La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 11 Sep 82

[Excerpts] Negotiations aimed at taking advantage of a $100 million loan offered by the Romanian Government are fairly advanced, according to information supplied by Bolivian Foreign Minister Agustin Saavedra Waisse to the cabinet that met at Government House on Thursday.

Minister Saavedra Waisse, in addition to briefing the cabinet on the Romanian offer of a $100 million loan, also spoke about other matters within the jurisdiction of his ministry. In this regard he reported the offer received from the Peruvian Reserve Bank concerning a $30 million reciprocal loan payable in 10 years, plus 1 year of grace.

INTERIOR MINISTER ON ECONOMIC DIALOGUE, STRIKES

PY131852 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1700 GMT 13 Sep 82

[Text] General Vildoso's administration will stimulate all representative sectors of the nation to maintain a social and economic dialogue with the nation. This dialogue will be chanelled through the Finance Ministry, said Interior Minister Edgar Rojas Ruiz upon leaving Government House this morning. The minister had briefed the president of the nation on the political situation of the nation.

[Begin recording] [Rojas] Once again the government calls upon the Bolivian people to be realistic and to help in the quest for solutions which will be implemented jointly so that all of us will move in unison toward a given objective. It should be pointed out as well that even though a political dialogue has been implemented, the government also wants to have a social and economic dialogue. This government will do absolutely nothing behind the back of the people.

[Unidentified reporter] Initially the government will meet with labor organizations such as the Bolivian Labor Federation [COB] because the workers are most affected by government economic measures, is that not so, Mr Minister?

[Answer] Of course, now that a political dialogue has been implemented it is our feeling that the COB should be given the chance to submit its proposals which we believe fair enough because after all the workers are the ones that have to carry the brunt of the economic pressures.

[Question] Mr Minister, what can you tell us about a possible advancement of the elections date?

[Answer] The government bears in mind the supreme interests of the nation.

[Question] Mr Minister, in view of the situation prevailing in Bolivia and the support which many political sectors give to the idea of reinstating the 1980 congress, what is your opinion?

[Answer] Let us see how things develop, always bearing in mind -- I repeat -- the supreme and holy interests of Bolivia. [end recording]

He said in the end that the wave of strikes unleashed today is a source of deep concern and added that measures of this kind will provide Bolivia with no solutions to the existing problems.

[Begin recording] [Rojas] We are bound to be concerned by all this but, nevertheless, we wish to reiterate our message to the Bolivian people to be united and realistic. We want to make it clear once again that strikes and stoppages are not a solution to the Bolivian cirsis.

[Unidentified reporter] What has the government done to resolve the departmental strikes in the southern part of the nation?

[Answer] The Planning and Mining Ministries are conducting negotiations to resolve the problem of royalties due to these departments, so would you be kind enough to address the heads of those ministries for further clarification.

[Question] The La Paz departmental branch of the COB has called for a demonstration to be staged next Wednesday. Will this demonstration have the appropriate government guarantees or, to be exact, the guarantees from your ministry?

[Answer] First we will try to talk with Mr Juan Lechin to show him that we are well disposed toward their proposals. All we want is to preserve tranquillity and avoid excesses. [end recording]

Rojas Scores Bank Union

FY131530 La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 11 Sep 82

[Excerpts] In response to the challenge which the union of Bolivian Central Bank employees hurled at him, Interior Minister Edgar Rojas Ruiz has disclosed the irregularities that are taking place at that bank.

The interior minister stated that the Central Bank workers have never been interested in defending the nation's economy, in behaving like a proper union and in upholding the prestige of the nation's foremost banking institution. He also accused the union of failing to protect the dignity of the majority of its members who are honest and efficient employees.

In no uncertain terms, the interior minister charged the current leadership of the union of representing an opportunistic, factionalist minority which is prompted by hidden political motives harmful to the Central Bank, the nation and the armed forces. The interior minister also accused the Central Bank workers union with the intent of becoming a supranational entity with powers to oversee the actions of the government.

He said that while this union is trying to play the role of revolutionary vanguard of the labor movement, it is also one of the most priviledged sectors whose members receive high salaries, enjoy illegal per diems and preferential treatment, are paid more than 16 monthly salaries per year, get first class tickets when they travel, and are granted easy loans and other benefits which no other institution offers; thus being, in fact, a veritable aristocracy among the workers of the country.

After lambasting the administrative framework of the bank which has no charter or manual of operations, the interior minister went into an evaluation of its financial statements. He said that the budgets and (?operation) plans for 1979, 1980, 1981 and up to 31 August 1982 reveal the haphazard manner in which the Central Bank has been operating. He added that accounting of profit and losses do not reflect the true economic and financial status of the bank.

Among the irregularities that the interior minister mentioned to the Central Bank union leaders who immediately reacted by demanding that they be revealed, the communique issued by the Interior Minister claimed that Central Bank General Manager Milton Paz Cardozo forged his birth certificate in order to keep his job and continue covering up the mismanagement prevailing in the Central Bank. The workers and the union were fully aware of this forgery.

The minister said that rather than doing something to improve the moral standards and defending the interests of the nation, the union has acted as an accomplice in all the above-mentioned irregularities.

In light of the interior minister's disclosures, it is now up to the leaders of the Central Bank union to react in keeping with their own request that those involved in mismanagement be prosecuted.

Workers Refute Charges

PY131719 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 11 Sep 82

[Excerpt] The workers of the Bolivian Central Bank termed impertinent the charges which Interior Minister Edgar Rojas Ruiz made against their union leaders, Miguel Angel Quintanilla, Dante Pino and Ricardo Sanchez.

In a lengthy communique, the bank employees pointed out that the above were the very persons who reported illegal sales of foreign currency ordered under Gen Celso Torrelio Villa's administration. Those who had ordered the sales went unpunished while the Central Bank was blamed for following the instructions issued by the armed forces government.

The Central Bank employees added that out of respect for public opinion they will not issue a detailed answer to the interior minister's charges because their objective is obvious. Union leader Miguel Angel Quintanilla made the following statement:

[Begin recording] First of all, I would like to tell the people that the communique which was released through the television and other media has been fully discussed at a meeting held this morning. This meeting lasted from 0900 until 1400. The main result of this meeting was the decision to reject the communique because it is inconsistent and aimed merely at distracting attention from the core of the matter; the shady dealings at the bank.

The meeting also decided to discontinue the strike and to deplore the fact that the charge of the interior minister had forced the Central Bank employees to go on strike in the first place. [end recording]

STRIKES, STOPPAGES MULTIPLY THROUGHOUT COUNTRY

PY131414 Paris AFP in Spanish 1344 GMT 13 Sep 82

[Text] La Paz, 13 Sep (AFP) -- Beginning today, a third of Bolivian territory will come to a total standstill, since a regional stoppage has been declared in Potosi, Chuquisaca and Tarija Departments, in addition to the mineworkers' strike at state and private companies.

The regional committees in the south of the country took this harsh position, since the government has ignored their demands for better roads, public services and infrastructures, and after having received no answer from the central government for several weeks.

The mineworkers have decided to stage a 48-hour strike, demanding the implementation of the minimum salary with a flexible scale and protesting the economic emergency plan which the government is preparing and the floating dollar exchange rate.

In Cochabamba in the center of the country the factory workers are on a general and indefinite strike, asking that power be handed over to civilians immediately.

In Oruro there is also a regional stoppage because of the lack of a reply to charges of shady deals in the national smelting enterprise.

Communications Workers Strike

PY131356 Paris AFP in Spanish 2350 GMT 11 Sep 82

[Text] Lima, 11 Sep (AFP) -- According to information gathered by AFP at Entelperu [National Telecommunications Enterprises of Peru], Bolivia lost contact with the rest of the world today as a result of a general cut of telephone, telex and private news agency circuits that go through the Bolivian National Telecommunications Company [Entel]. According to the explanation received, the workers of Entel-Bolivia have gone on a general and indefinite strike.

Communications Cut

PY131438 Paris AFP in Spanish 1352 GMT 13 Sep 82

[Text] La Paz, 13 Sep (AFP) -- According to information gathered in this capital today, domestic and international communications will remain cut until the government approves a special bonus for the workers of the National Telecommunications Company (Entel). Entel workers leader Fernando Suarez indicated that the finance under secretary is opposing the granting of a special bonus for Entel workers and until this attitude is changed, communications will remain cut. International news agency circuits which were cut last Saturday have been reopened on request from the Association of International Press Correspondents (ACPI).

FRI LEADER ARRESTED FOR LIBEL, OTHER CRIMES

PY111644 La Paz Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 11 Sep 82

[Text] Dr Manuel Morales Davila, leader of the Revolutionary Front of the Left, FRI, has been arrested by officers of the court police following the (?request made) by Interior Minister Edgar Rojas Ruiz that Morales Davila be brought to trial. Morales Davila has been arrested on charges of libel, slander, false reports and other crimes covered in the penal code.

Here is the declaration issued by the district attorney's office in this regard. With reference to the newspaper article of last Thursday which was entitled "A Political Leader Was Arrested Today," it is hereby made known that Mr Manuel Morales Davila has been arrested on orders from (Dr Gonzalo Cordero Odoria Medina), judge of the First Penal Court, in accordance with the (?request made) by Interior Minister Edgar Rojas Ruiz that Mr Morales Davila be brought to trial on charges of libel, slander, false reports and other crimes covered in Articles 130, 146, 167, 283 and 287 of the penal code. The declaration states that Dr Morales Davila was not arrested for political reasons. It notes, moreover, that he was not arrested by intelligence officers, but by court police officers based on the previously mentioned lawsuit.

GARCIA MEZA ALLOWED TO GO TO U.S. FOR HEARING

PY132245 Paris AFP in Spanish 1923 GMT 11 Sep 82

[Excerpt] La Paz, 11 Sep (AFP) -- The Bolivian Armed Forces Government will allow former President Gen Luis Garcia Meza and his interior minister, Col Luis Arce Gomez, to travel to the United States to clear themselves of charges of participating in international drug trafficking. This information was disclosed in La Paz today by Interior Minister Col Edgar Rojas Ruiz who emphasized that anything related to upholding Bolivia's dignity and improving the image of the armed forces should be well looked upon.

Rojas Ruiz said that certain international organizations are lobbying to bring the two military officers before the U.S. courts and even before its Congress. The minister pointed out that the two officers have appeared before courts of their own free will and this says a great deal for the behavior of former Bolivian leaders.

PRC DEVELOPMENT BANK PRESIDENT ARRIVES FOR VISIT

PY140226 Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 13 Sep 82 p 1

[Text] Rong Yiren, president of China International Trust and Investments Corporation (CITIC), a sort of national development bank, began yesterday a 12-day official visit by saying that "one thing is certain, the PRC will always side with the Third World." He also criticized the U.S. position at the just ended meeting of the IMF.

Rong, 68, was a successful Chinese businessman before the 1949 communist revolution and managed to weather all Chinese crises without ever falling into disgrace. As CITIC president today, he has ministerial status, and is in Brazil at the invitation of Foreign Minister Saraiva Guerreiro. President Figueiredo will meet with him tomorrow.

ACCIDENTAL EXPLOSIONS HIT MILITARY BARRACKS

PY140358 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 0315 GMT 14 Sep 82

[Text] Three explosions at 0455 this morning [13 September] damaged the barracks of the military police shock battallion in Rio de Janeiro. The explosions destroyed vehicles used to repress public demonstrations, damaged barracks and messhalls, and injured five policemen, one of them seriously [words indistinct]. The commander of the unit denies the possibility of sabotage, saying that the explosions were the result of a short circuit in electrical installations.

The unit's headquarters is located on the [name indistinct] Avenue in Rio de Janeiro. The explosions affected the area where riot control materiel is stored such as tear gas and noise bombs. The messhalls and the kitchen suffered extensive damage and three armored cars were hit.

An investigation has been ordered to determine the cause of the explosions.

NUCLEAR PLANT'S COMMERCIAL OPERATION DELAYED

PY101438 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 10 Sep 82

[Text] In just another year the Angra 1 nuclear plant will go into commercial operation as work to modify the steam generator is scheduled to begin in March. The 2-year delay is the result of mistakes in the Westinghouse project causing losses on the order of $270 million in financial costs alone.

The president of Furnas electric company has announced that the plant will resume shakedown operations on 20 September until the steam generator is finally modified.

Westinghouse will have to make the same repairs it will make at Angra 1 in other countries where the same mistakes were made. The U.S. company will give its final answer in October, but in principle the repair work at Angra 1 is to begin next March.

Former president of the CNEA [National Atomic Energy Commission] Hervasio de Carvalho has said that the Brazilian company will not be the first nor the last in requesting such repairs from Westinghouse because the same mistakes have been made with more than hundred steam generators.

PDT SECRETARY GENERAL FANTON COMMITS SUICIDE

PY131312 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 13 Sep 82

[Excerpt] Lidovino Fanton, national secretary general of the Brazilian Workers Democratic Party (PDT), was found dead in a private hospital in Porto Alegre. At first it was believed that he had died of a heart attack, but it was later confirmed that the Porto Alegre congressman hung himself with a curtain in his hospital room. He was suffering from a nervous breakdown.

PRESIDENT ANNOUNCES CREATION OF WELFARE FUND

PY140055 [Editorial Report] Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese at 2310 GMT on 13 September begins carrying live an 8-minute speech to the nation by President Joao Baptista Figueiredo over a national network. President Figueiredo begins by saying that security is the aspiration of all Brazilians and that the responsibility for ensuring that security, internally and externally, falls upon the state. Economic security is the main concern of the state regarding the lowest income classes, says Figueiredo, and goes on to say that unless the state provides for effective assistance to those classes, their lot is uncertain whenever adversity strikes.

Figueiredo then states that the country's constitutional system is pervaded by the social consciousness that Brazilians must not be abandoned to their own devices in the face of misfortune. He adds: "The genuinely democratic and social ideal calls for solidarity. Individualism left to itself has the power to destroy, and so it must be balanced by a sentiment of solidarity imposed by humanism."

The president then states that "public assistance is necessary so that those who need help the most can live with dignity, and Brazil's judicial system upholds the principle of human solidarity to protect those who are hit by misfortunes." He then says that immense resources are necessary to provide assistance to thse who are affected by what can be described as a "state of need." Figueiredo declares that a contribution to meet these needs has been instituted through a decree whereby 60.8 billion cruzeiros will be collected during the current year under the Finsocial [Social Investment Fund]. The president states that the primary application of this newly instituted fund will be to provide shelter for the homeless and food for the undernourished, particularly school-age children whose well-being must be looked after at any cost, even for reasons of national security.

The Brazilian president concludes by saying that "programs under the Finsocial will soon be launched as instruments of economic and social democracy, and as such, they certainly will have the solidarity, understanding and support of all Brazilians."

BRIEFS

BOND ISSUE IN JAPAN -- The National Economic and Social Development Bank, BNDES, will issue bonds for $40 million on the Japanese market in November 1982. [Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 10 Sep 82 PY]

URANIUM RESERVES FIGURE -- Rio de Janeiro, 3 Sep (AFP) -- The Brazilian uranium reserves have increased from 266,300 tons to 301,490 tons, the Mines and Energy Ministry reported here today. [Paris AFP in Spanish 1117 GMT 3 Sep 82 PY]

JANUARY-AUGUST STEEL PRODUCTION -- Rio de Janeiro, 4 Sep (AFP) -- The Brazilian Iron and Steel Institute (IBS) reported here today that steel production totalled 8,635,800 tons during the January-August 1982 period. This figure represents a 5.8 percent drop from that obtained during the same period in 1981. The IBS also reported that 1,212,600 tons of steel were produced in August 1982. [Paris AFP in Spanish 1454 GMT 4 Sep 82 PY]

PRESIDENT PINOCHET'S STATE OF NATION ADDRESS

PY111730 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1529 GMT 11 Sep 82

[President Augusto Pinochet state of the nation address from the Diego Portales building in Santiago on the ninth anniversary of his accession to power -- live]

[Excerpts] National presidents of the women's associations, honorable members of the government junta and beloved wives, his excellency president of the Supreme Court and wife, his excellency the reverend auxiliary bishop of Santiago representing the cardinal archbishop of Santiago, Mrs Rosa Maga de Gonzalez Videla, his excellency the reverend apostolic nuncio and dean of the diplomatic corps, their excellencies ambassadors of friendly countries, ministers of state, comptroller general of the republic, president of the State Council, members of the State Council, generals and admirals, military, civilian and church authorities, ladies and gentlemen:

As we today mark a new anniversary of the national liberation, I make this state of the nation address to give the annual account of the advances the country has made during the past year amid the difficulties we have faced, as well as an account of the form in which we have adopted the most appropriate solutions.

It is not by mere coincidence that on this memorable date we gather to comply with the constitutional mandate to give an account of the nation's affairs to the citizenry. When we mention 11 September, our minds recall that heroic epic of liberation undertaken by the armed forces and the forces of order. Today, filled with gratitude, we pay homage to those soldiers who 9 years ago fell in defense of the nation's identity, thus leaving us a legacy of exemplary patriotism and dedication. Their blood was not spilled in vain because the soldiers who are alive today will never betray the cause for which we fought together. The sacrifice made yesterday will have its repercussions in the future of the fatherland. [applause]

When the military government took over, it found the country in an abnormal situation in which the nation's values were distorted. So we proposed to the nation that a new institutional system for Chileans be forged in order to normalize the nation by restoring the purest virtues of our nationhood and by eradicating the vices which corrupted our civic institutions -- a new institutional system capable of ensuring for us a dignified life and an harmonious coexistence.

Today, as we did yesterday, we will continue to consolidate that normalization and strengthen the foundations of an authentically free society so as to make possible the installation of full democracy as a way of life in the near future; a strong, effective, stable and well-protected democracy. Neither the temporary difficulties we are experiencing in the economic area nor the continuous aggression of our enemies will force us to depart from the road leading to the attainment of the objectives we have set for ourselves in the pursuit of the greatness of Chile and of the spiritual and material well-being of our people.

Chilean men and women, upon completing today 2 years since the Chilean people, by sovereign and majority decision, approved the new Constitution in 1980, I reaffirm to the people that the government intends to accomplish institutionalization in keeping with the rules and institutions established in the Constitution. [applause]

In order to attain the above normalization, I believe that it is indispensable to reassert that the path which will be followed consists of enacting the laws and of complying with the other complementary procedures which are established in the Constitution.

The strengthening of the economic growth is being contemplated in order to enable the various sectors of the country to progress after the present difficulties are surmounted. This progress entails the strengthening of social participation and the enhancing of moral and spiritual values, values which are essential for the country.

In order to achieve social participation, the government has ordered, among other rules and measures, that a study be conducted on the new municipalities law and that the higher levels of the administration and the career structure of public servants be reorganized. These measures, along with the other goals already established, are aimed at attaining a gradual normalization in all sectors of the country.

I hereby reassert that the ban on political activities will remain unchanged, and we will prevent any agitations aimed at undermining the great task we are undertaking that seek to prevent the previously mentioned gradual normalization. [applause]

The government has clearly established the framework of political disagreement that can legitimately exist during this period. In this way, those who comply with the law can freely express their views.

However, I must make it clear that the government will apply the full force of the law to those who may choose to overlook this framework by disrupting public order or by fomenting an artificial atmosphere of political unrest which would benefit subversion and terrorism. [applause]

The social, economic and political progress which has been made thus far has not been attained by mere chance. This progress has been the result of the constant, hard and anonymous work carried out by Chilean men and women who have made effort and who have given the best of themselves in keeping with the reality we desire for our beloved homeland.

Various external economic factors, which are beyond our control, have seriously restricted our economic development this year, thus generating a series of difficulties which have seriously affected the efforts and the desires of many Chilean people.

The government has taken concrete steps in adverse situations. It has taken the necessary measures in due time, in keeping with the supreme Chilean interests.

The country has experienced a difficult economic situation in the past few years as a result of the international crisis. Despite the fact that the inflation rate during this period has been one of the lowest we have ever had, there has been a marked decrease in our economic activity which caused unemployment to increase in a considerable way.

Major progress was attained by our economy until last year. Our gross domestic product [GDP] increased 45.8 percent during the 1977-81 period. This figure largely exceeded the one registered during the same period by the majority of the developed and of the developing economies.

But not only a record growth of our GDP, but also an important decline in inflation was achieved. In 1976, consumer prices rose by 374.3 percent; in 1981 that percentage stood at just 9.5 percent. As for the creation of new capital, we also made important progress; the national investment rate increased 13.3 percent in 1977 and 19.5 percent in 1981. Many jobs were created during those years, thus noticeably reducing the unemployment index. More employment, better salaries and greater economic activity in conjunction with price stability and competition permitted us to improve the standard of living of all Chileans considerably. This made it possible for many modest citizens to afford goods and services which translate into real well-being. On the other hand, more social and low-cost housing units have been built and delivered to more people.

The improved situation thus permitted a large mass of Chileans to apportion a larger share of their incomes to the purchase of quality food and durable goods, with the resulting rising indexes of acquisition of nonluxury repeat nonluxury items.

As can be seen, these achievements were not fortuitous, but the result of the implementation of coherent and adequate policies which were effectively adopted in Chile as well as in many other countries. I therefore believe that, once we manage to overcome the difficult international economic situation, we will recover the prosperity, well-being and growth we had in recent years.

The most important parts of the economic machinery are: In the first place, to assign a leading role to the operation of markets and to the private sector, which does not mean to minimize the government's functions, but to concentrate its efforts on public functions such as the redistribution of income, the supervision of private activities and the management of those enterprises which are essential to the country; secondly, to consolidate an economy which would be open to international trade. Thus a small economy like ours will fully join the rest of the world and will obtain advantages and will benefit by obtaining capital from other countries. We also need to implement a responsible fiscal policy so as to have the government cover its expenditures with its own income, thus eliminating the printing of money in a haphazard manner which is one of the major sources of inflation.

It is also necessary that administering rules and policies of general application be done without discrimination so as not to benefit the most articulate sectors to the detriment of those who are less articulate. That is also necessary so as to safeguard competition in the marketing of goods and services; to prevent the formation of monopolies, the concentration of economic power and distortions in the free access to markets.

Unfortunately, at the time these policies were operating quite satisfactorily, our country had to face a great external crisis. In fact, the world has witnessed how all countries have sunk into the most serious recession since that of 1930. Among the dire characteristics of the present crisis we must note its duration in time, because even the most pessimistic international experts expected a more rapid recovery.

There are people in our country who are deliberately pretending to ignore that an international recession does in fact exist or who are attempting to minimize its impact on our country, with the purpose of getting personal benefit out of the situation. Unfortunately, the international recession does exist, and it has had a hard impact on our country. This recession has caused us to reduce the number and the price of our export products. This has been the case with copper, the price of which in some past months has been the lowest in the past 50 years.

The prices of molybdenum, iron, fish meal, cellulose and other important exports have also dropped on the international market. According to available date, the total amount of our exports will decrease by approximately $1 billion this year compared to 1980. The reason for this difference lies in the drop in international supply and demand and in prices.

Not only have our exports dropped, the crisis has also affected the movement of capital. The availability of foreign loans has decreased on the international market because we are living in an uneasy world which has little money available and a large number of countries which are incapable of paying their foreign debts.

Chile has continued to receive foreign loans and investments despite the above-mentioned difficulties. However, this year Chile will only receive approximately 50 percent of what it received last year.

My fellow citizens, the government has never concealed the country's situation from you. The government has frankly asked the people to make joint efforts and to understand the country's real situation. Our country has tried to adapt itself to the new reality through various means. In the first place, public expenditures have decreased [words indistinct] of the state-run enterprises, and some taxes have temporarily been increased. These measures were aimed at preventing the public sector from causing an overall imbalance.

On the other hand, the interest rate mechanism should automatically restrict the spending of the private sector. As a matter of fact, the transitory deficit in the balance of payments and the drop in reserves will being about a decrease in the amount of money in circulation, thus provoking an increase in interest rates and a subsequent reduction in private spending.

A decrease in public and private spending would reduce the prices of non-negotiable goods and services in real terms, and it would enable the exporting sector and the sector engaged in making goods that take the place of imported goods to be more competitive.

Restricting spending has in fact been attained rapidly. However, the decrease in real terms in the price of certain goods and services and the adaptation of the productive sectors to the new international conditions have not yielded the expected results. As a consequence, the rapid spending decrease has contributed to a fast drop in production and a strong increase in unemployment.

These harsh circumstances prompted the government to modify its strategy in order to surmount the impact of the recession, which consisted of increasing the exchange rate and adopting other economic measures.

However, there were several factors which prevented the adjustment from working in accordance with plans, and so we were forced to devalue the peso. One such factor was the decline of inflation in developed countries, particularly in the United States. Another factor was the overvaluation of the dollar against other currencies, thus causing prices in those countries to drop vis-a-vis our internal prices with the consequent reduction of our exports and of our consumption of imported goods.

In addition, the maintenance of rigid prices and salaries brought about a drop in expenditures which contributed toward pushing unemployment upwards. In order to face up to this stark reality, the government decided to devalue the peso in order to make our exports more competitive and to protect national industry.

In addition to devaluing the peso, several measures were adopted to improve the economic situation in general. The Central Bank set in motion a more active monetary policy in order to improve the money supply and thus to bring down the real interest rate. The state bank also made available 11.5 billion pesos to a line of long-term refinancing operations for the most productive sectors. The Central Bank negotiated with private banks and financial institutions for the transfer of overdue accounts, and the form in which these operations were carried out permitted those institutions to consolidate the position of their assets without putting resources of the Central Bank at risk. At the same time, the Central Bank undertook to solve with these institutions the problem of their registered accounts, thus reducing the risks of those institutions and ensuring an efficient functioning of the banking system.

The government has installed through the Central Bank an important supervisory function over the relations of the financial sector with conglomerate groups, thus ensuring the growth of these groups on a solid basis. On the other hand, important measures have been adopted to cut down unemployment by offering a subsidy for hiring labor and increasing the annual funding for the minimum employment program.

It is also necessary to do away with rules that, while giving the appearance of protection for the workers, negatively affect employment stability and actually increase inemployment.

On this occasion, I want to call once again on the labor leaders to fulfill their duty to defend the interests of all workers, without forgetting the lot of unemployed Chileans. This responsibility puts those leaders under an obligation to be realistic and to act in wuch a way as to ensure job stability. If labor leaders lose sight of this obligation and do not act in accordance with reality, they will fail to live up to their responsibility because they will only be prolonging the risk of unemployment for many Chileans, inasmuch as their attitude will be discouraging labor-intensive activities while artifically encouraging automation.

The increase in the quantity of currency, a greater financial stability and the measures to improve the job market will soon start to bear fruit.

However, the climate of uncertainty created by all kinds of rumors and alarmist predictions and the opportunity people had to purchase goods at lower prices by traveling abroad favored a strong speculation against our peso. This led many people and enterprises to purchase or hoard dollars. As a consequence, we witnessed a drop in our reserves of more than $400 million over a period of 1 and 1/2 months. This loss of international reserves not only represented a negative issue in itself, but what is worse still, it hindered the government's effort to [word indistinct].

However, the Central Bank was unsuccessful in increasing the means of payment -- in order to reduce interest rates and start the desired reactivation -- because the money which it injected into the market was rechanneled back into it on account of the higher prices paid for purchases of dollars.

The government, aware that its main responsibility was to created the conditions for the recovery of production and employment, was forced to let the dollar rate float. The free rate of exchange which was implemented frees the results of the monetary policy from the desire of some people or enterprises to hold foreign currencies.

Today Chile has $2.9 billion in reserves and a balanced trade despite the low prices of the products it exports. It is also receiving enough investments and foreign credits in order to settle the loans which are due now.

However, it is quite probable that we will not be able to cover our interest payments with the small surplus in our trade balance at the end of the year. But the fact that we will be able to cover this moderate deficit with our excellent reserves justifies the efforts made last month to accumulate the international reserves which the country now has.

The government, aware that its decision to let the dollar rate float would affect those who had commitments in dollars, opened a special credit line and established a preferential rate for the dollar for those people or enterprises so that they would be able to meet their commitments.

Compatriots, despite the situation I have just depicted, the measures we have adopted allow us to state emphatically that Chile will undoubtedly emerge successfully from this new adversity. [applause] We have plenty of international reserves, a balanced public finance, a productive apparatus with efficient and serious prices and, for the benefit of our most needy compatriots, we have a package of tools to support them, something which never existed before.

We will turn exports into a priority activity; we will implement other taxation rules which are necessary to encourage domestic savings; we will maintain an active and moderate monetary policy which will allow a growth that will be in accordance with the stability of prices which must go along with the transitory increases stemming from devaluation.

All the aforementioned will normalize the interests rates, which in turn will have a positive impact on employment [words indistinct] for a just and realistic salary policy.

We are thus in a position to initiate our recovery and return to a period of economic prosperity. This means, however, that we should be alert and moderate at the beginning.

I would like to express gratitude and recognition to those who have at all times kept their confidence in the government's policies, and I call upon those who have fallen into pessimism and discouragement to recover their faith and to join in this stage of recovery with new efforts.

Chile has confronted a world crisis, a type of crisis which has not taken place in the last 50 years. The government has confronted this situation by adopting the most effective technical measures, thereby demonstrating a flexibility which many people did not perceive in our economic system.

In this regard, the important thing is not to abandon the good things in the economic policies when the first problems arise. Efforts have been made to be pragmatic by using various instruments which were not necessary in prior years, such as the refinancing of foreign credits; the implementation of active monetary policies; the reduction of the withholding on foreign credits; taxes on luxuries; increases in social expenditures through the municipalities and an increase in the exchange rate.

Something we must never do is to take a step backward, wasting all these years of sacrifice. We must not erase in a single action great achievements such as the fiscal balance and the opening of our economy to international trade. We must recover from this difficult situation without changing the basis of our strategy, because in this manner the future years will be positive and as prosperous as the recent years. With the force of decision and the courage which characterizes the Chilean people, I am sure that once again we will succeed.

In the agricultural sector, 326 million pesos were invested in silo agricultural research in 1982, and private institutions were allowed to have access.

While the annual crop area declined by 230,000 hectares, the following were made available: 680,000 hectares of woods, 25,000 hectares of fruit plants, 480,000 hectares for cattle-raising. All this entails an increase of 95,000 hectares in usable land in the past 7 years, which is an unprecedented feat in Chile's history.

The Chilean mining sector has been able to face the difficulties stemming from this recessive period through greater efficiency and increased production. While other countries have been experiencing sharp drops in their mining production, our production of copper, gold and silver has increased moderately. As a result of the high levels of production achieved in previous years, the current volumes of mining production are higher than those of 1974 as follows: copper, more than 50 percent higher; molybdenum, more than 100 percent higher; silver, more than 147 percent higher; and gold, more than 300 percent higher.

Oil production in 1981 was 25 percent higher than that of 1980, which permitted us to substitute it for imports worth approximately $600 billion [as heard] and allowed us to supply 50 percent of our domestic needs.

Despite all our efforts and the country's mineral wealth, world recession has had a heavy impact on the country's income due to the sharp decline experienced by copper prices on the international markets in the past 2 years. Due to this factor alone, Chilean income stemming from copper exports in 1981, despite being larger than those of previous years, was 21 percent lower than that of 1980, which is equivalent to a reduction in income on the order of $575 million.

In the national defense sector, the armed and security forces have fully complied with their responsibility of safeguarding our territorial integrity and constitutional order.

Despite having to assume greater responsibilities, the institutions charged with securing national defense have maintained and even enhanced their degree of professionalism. Keeping the country's commitments, they have contributed to defending the hemisphere by participating in joint operations and by assigning permanent representatives to the Inter-American Defense Board.

I want to reiterate once again the granitelike unity of the armed and security forces and their resolve to carry on the consolidation of our institutional system. [applause]

Chile has maintained its foreign policy, which is in keeping with the great national objectives, primarily those of securing peace, freedom, justice and national sovereignty. [applause]

In accordance with our Constitution and the goals of the UN Charter, the government has continued to carry out efforts to build the best level of friendship with other nations.

Within the framework of bilateral relations, our country was particularly pleased to host his excellency the president of the Republic of Uruguay, Lt Gen Gregorio Alvarez and his distinguished wife, who came to our country on an official visit which was instrumental in reaffirming the friendship of more than 100 years linking our two countries.

In the face of the major events that took place in the South Atlantic, the Chilean Government expressed in due time its profound concern and reaffirmed its unwavering support for the rules of international law and for the peaceful solution of controversies. Our position and speeches at the appropriate international organizations were entirely inspired by the law and reflected our absolute neutrality in this conflict which was so seriously compromising the two countries involved.

Our relations with Peru have improved remarkably during this period. The Chilean-Peruvian standing cooperation commission held its fifth meeting in Lima in June, thus confirming that bilateral relations between the two countries have entered a stage of clear consolidation in keeping with the level of cooperation and brotherhood required at this time in the hemisphere.

The recent visit to Brazil by the Chilean foreign minister was instrumental in reaffirming the cordial, strong ties that have bound the two countries throughout their history. They held frank, open talks in Brasilia about the crisis of the inter-American system, the world recession and their bilateral actions in the political, economic and trade fields. These talks were instrumental in confirming the excellent status of Chilean-Brazilian relations and the two governments' resolve to further strengthen their ties.

The southern conflict with the Republic of Argentina still remains unresolved. Yet mediation of his holiness John Paul II has functioned expeditiously, which gives us well-founded hopes for the establishment of mechanisms which would permit the final solution of this controversy. I want to express once again the Chilean Government's confidence in the mediation of the holy father and reiterate its commitment to cooperate loyally with him, convinced that we will thus be contributing to strengthening the friendly ties and mutual understanding between the sister republics of Chile and Argentina. [applause]

Our bilateral relations with the other nations of the continent have continued to develop on the basis of dialogue and understanding in the fields of cooperation, friendship and trade.

With the United States of America, we continued to strengthen our numerous ties of friendship and understanding, both in the bilateral, regional and world levels. Initiatives were also continued to increase friendship and cooperation ties with Western European countries, especially in the areas of trade, cooperation and cultural exchange.

We will continue to increase and to consolidate our ties with African countries by exchanging visits, by signing agreements on technical, cultural and scientific assistance.

As for our relations with Middle East countries, it is proper to emphasize the high level of relations we have built with many of them. We reaffirm our sincere hope that the serious conflict that has been shaking the Middle East region will soon have a reasonable, equitable solution.

The Chilean presence has increased in Asian countries. We have continued to strengthen our ties with China, Japan, the Republic of Korea and with ASEAN members countries in several fields of mutual interest.

Chile continues to participate actively in international organizations, primarily in the United Nations and the OAS, to contribute to bringing about international cooperation and to uphold the principles of international peace and security, which we consider to be essential in any civilized world coexistence.

In this multilateral framework, it is proper to note the favorable result achieved by our country at the third UN conference on the law of the sea which approved a draft multilateral convention which fully incorporated the idea of a 200-mile exclusive economic zone proposed by our country and which is designed to give adequate protection to our maritime resources. This convention will soon be submitted to the international community for signing and ratification.

Our relations have been intensified in the international economic area. The confidence inspired by the economic policy of Chile -- which has demonstrated solvency in the international financial and economic markets -- is further evidence of the country's advance toward its full development. Despite the major difficulties imposed by the current world recession, our country will continue to actively participate in the international economic system.

Also, in accordance with Article 9 of the national Constitution, a law for punishing terrorist activities is under study. There is no need to emphasize the importance of a modern and effective, organized legal system in our country to prevent and drastically punish this scourge which violates the most basic principles of human rights and which is affecting the entire world.

Although our country has shown itself to be an exception regarding the incidence of terrorism, the enemy is on the watch. Therefore, it is the duty of the government and of myself, as president, to adopt all the necessary measures to prevent these actions. If we do not take measures against terrorism now, we will regret it in the future. [Applause]

In the struggle against terrorism, it is necessary to have a legal system that provides expeditious trials and adequate punishments which are strong enough against this social scourge. If we keep in mind that the measures used by terrorists are generally atrocious and cruel, that their agents are trained with the most modern techniques of aggression and many times under the cover of powerful organizations and even countries, we must realize that their objective is to create terror among the population through attacks against innocent victims with the ulterior motive of carrying out subversive or revolutionary activities.

This is why it was deemed necessary that the law against terrorism establish in principle that any crime be labeled as terrorist if certain means or purposes are used to commit a crime. This law has already been written and will be submitted to the legislative branch in the next few days.

Chileans, on concluding this yearly address on the progress of the nation, I want to express my satisfaction over the achievements made and the governments recognition to the people for their support.

However, I cannot avoid this opportunity to refer to the open negative attitude of opposition political parties. Attempts are being made to return to those nefarious political practices which led the country to the situation prevailing prior to 11 September 1973. Despite the years that have elapsed, the old enemies have steadily continued to engage in agitations by raising alleged monetary issues which were even encouraged by misguided representatives of religious institutions. [applause]

The government is alert to the activities of these people who are characterized by their demagogic and divisionist attitude; however, no one is going to give up in the search for uniting the people in order to face the national and international situations the country must confront. [applause]

This year Chile has been able to appreciate the strength and drive of its people when we had to confront adverse situations, situations which have been overcome with decision and strength. The people's understanding, willpower and faith in their government are a commitment to justice and freedom because these have been decisive factors for continuing on the path of normalization which we started on 11 September.

Therefore, I insist that we must have the support of all sectors of public opinion, and so I I call upon you to continue giving your efforts and work in this important mission.

On concluding this yearly address, I reiterate my purpose to continue putting all my efforts for the great cause of Chile, a cause which belongs to all of us.

On expressing to my people my faith in the fatherland and its destiny, I invite you all to thank God Almighty for his continuing to sustain us in our daily lives. Let us honor this blessed land which saw us enter this life, let us continue to give our sweat and efforts for its well-being, because together we are going to make this country great. Long live Chile!

BEAGLE CHANNEL DELEGATE DEPARTS FOR ROME 13 SEP

PY140220 Santiago Diplomatic Information Service in Spanish 2339 GMT 13 Sep 82

[Text] Col Ernesto Videla, the chief of the Chilean delegation to the papal mediation process, traveled today at noon to Rome to participate in the meetings with Cardinal Samore.

BETANCUR CRITICIZES CUBA, U.S.; VIEWS ECONOMY

PA131513 Bogota Emisoras CARACOL Network in Spanish 1215 GMT 13 Sep 82

[Text] Bogota -- President Belisario Betancur has criticized both Cuba and the United States; the former because it sponsors guerrilla activities in our country, and the latter because it views us as its backyard and looks at us askance. The head of state, who spent Sunday at the presidential ranch in Rio Grande and is now back at work in Narino Palace, was interviewed on the television newscast "7 Days in the World," which was broadcast last night.

According to Betancur, the best way to reactivate the nation's economy is to take human beings into account, (?thus providing) the citizens with new motivation. The president then praised the Colombian people's attitude when asked to practice austerity and discipline for the good of their homeland.

In a frank statement on international politics, the president said that the United States does not know how to help the Latin American community, which, he said, it views disdainfully.

Commenting on the Cuban regime, he said that he would like to see Colombia resume relations with Havana. He regretted, however, the fact that Fidel Castro does not share this desire. Things must be left as they are, he said. The Cuban president wants it this way, since he boasts of the fact that he supports and exports guerrilla activities.

President Betancur added that Colombia's economic crisis reflects the difficulties currently affecting world currencies in general.

Later this week, President Betancur plans to visit Medellin, where he will commemorate the University of Antioquia's founding anniversary on Thursday. The president was once a student at this institution.

PRESIDENT TRIES TO FOSTER CONGRESSIONAL UNITY

PA110110 Bogota Emisoras CARACOL Network in Spanish 1215 GMT 10 Sep 82

[Text] Bogota -- President Belisario Betancur has confirmed that the Liberal Party will have no political responsibility in his administration. However, he called for the solidarity of the Liberal congressmen so that without detracting from their ideology and without losing their capacity to make alternative proposals, they will cooperate in the processing of bills that benefit the nation in general.

In this way the president has tried to avert any political difficulty that might arise over the Liberal Party's position of not recognizing official representation in the cabinet or other high government positions. [sentence as heard] Taking advantage of a meeting with the leaderships of both houses of Congress, Betancur replied to the Liberals by stating that he respects the each congressman's right to express his political position. Nevertheless, he said that he is not disturbed by any current attitude regarding the magnitude of the great national problems. The president said he expects the consensus in the country to help solve these problems.

Betancur urged the congressmen to give priority to the three amnesty bills. He reaffirmed his desire to comply with the offer to put an end to the serious housing shortage in Columbia.

Liberal Senate Chairman (Bernardo Guerra Cerna) and Conservative House Chairman (Hernando Gomez Sotalora) promised, in the name of their respective houses of Congress, to debate and pass the bills with good will. The leaders of the permanent constitutional commissions of both houses made similar promises.

Therefore, it is understood that beginning today the executive and legislative branches will conduct their relations without partisan politics in order to achieve a permanent understanding regarding points on which Conservatives and Liberals agreed during the election campaign.

FOREIGN MINISTER TO HEAD DELEGATION TO UN

PA131922 Bogota Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 13 Sep 82

[Text] Foreign Minister Rodrigo Lloreda Caicedo will lead the Colombian delegation to the 36th period of sessions at the UN General Assembly in New York, which will begin on 20 September.

The Colombian delegation will also include Carlos Sanz de Santamaria, ambassador to the United Nations, who will preside over the delegation in Minister Lloreda's absence; (Juan Gomez Martinez); (Alberto Casas santamaria); Ramiro Andrade Teran; Hernando Duran Dussan; (Alfredo Carvajal); Ernesto Samper Pizano; (Elvira Cuervo de Jaramillo); and (Margarita Vidal de Puga).

MORE THAN 27 M-19 GUERRILLAS TURN THEMSELVES IN

PA131724 Bogota Emisoras CARACOL Network in Spanish 1215 GMT 13 Sep 82

[Text] Florencia -- More than 27 M-19 [19 April Movement] guerrillas, including several women, who operated in the southern part of the country have turned themselves in to the military authorities with their equipment and weapons. According to local army spokesmen, the insurgents, most of them very young men and women, decided to turn themselves in because of the suffering they underwent and the mistreatment they received in the jungle from those who command the rebels.

The authorities have not yet revealed either the total number of guerrillas who turned themselves in or their identities, but it has been confirmed that among them there is a 15-year old woman by the name of (Gladys Cepeda Figueroa), who related her experiences in the guerrilla movement. She explained that when she chose to marry another guerrilla, she had to do so in the middle of the jungle and talked about the execution of two of her companeros.

The guerrillas, who turned themselves in on Thursday and Friday last week, remain with different military regiments in Caqueta Department. They will be interrogated, to assess their situation and to decide on their possible return to civilian life.

ENVOY IN GUYANA INTERVIEWED ON ESSEQUIBO

FL131215 Bridgetown CANA in English 1623 GMT 12 Sep 82

[By Mike Javies]

[Excerpts] Georgetown, Guyana, Sep 12, CANA -- Venezuela has rejected protest notes alleging that Venezuelan soldiers violated Guyanese territory on two occasions last week-end Venezuelan Ambassador Sadio Garavini has said.

In an interview with the CARIBBEAN NEWS AGENCY (CANA) the ambassador charged that with Guyanese President Forbes Burnham preparing to visit Brazil at the end of the month "the Guyana Government wants to make it appear that Venezuela is a bellicose nation. We have received about 12 protest notes in all, real or unreal, from Guyana about border incidents and only on two occasions have I been formally called to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to receive them," Mr Garavini said.

One of the protest notes said that on September 3 a Venezuelan helicopter, whose occupants were dressed in military uniform, attempted to land at Baramita, seventy kilometres inside Guyana border.

Ambassador Garavini told CANA that the first note to his embassy was sent on May 10 during the Malvinas-Falklands crisis "when the Guyana Government used the incident for international publicity over the border issue with Venezuela, and the other occasion was this week when the Brazilian visit was announced. There is no substance to the Guyana protests of alleged Venezuelan provocations and no Venezuelan military helicopter was involved in any violation of Guyana air space," he added.

Ambassador Garavini said: "The option of judicial examination of the legal validity of the 1899 award setting out the boundary between Guyana and Venezuela would have been the main option if the 1966 Geneva agreement had not been signed to put the matter in a wider perspective."

Asked why Venezuela was not in favour of judicial settlement, the Venezuelan ambassador told CANA that a legal verdict is a matter of "black and white, all or nothing" whether the 1899 boundary is valid or not. "Irrespective of the validity of aspects of the Venezuelan case, the 15 judges of a sovereign country," he said. [Sentence as received]

"This is why we prefer negotiations between the two countries that could come to a reasonable, practical settlement which both sides could find acceptable," the ambassador said. Ambassador Garavini said he believed the matter would go to the secretary general of the United Nations, Perez de Cuellar.

He added: "My guess is that there will be a period of consultation and then the secretary general might suggest an option distinct from either of the ones Guyana or Venezuela have proposed separately, from among those set out in the Geneva agreement. There are some advantages in the appointment of a mediator to help the two sides reach agreement," he said.

VENEZUELA, MEXICO TO CONTINUE SPECIAL OIL PLAN

FL102033 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1955 GMT 10 Sep 82

[Excerpt] Santo Domingo, 10 Sep (NOTIMEX) -- The present financial problems in Mexico and Venezuela will not affect the supply of oil at reduced prices to Central America and the Caribbean, Venezuelan Energy and Mines Minister Humberto Calderon Berti asserted here today. Calderon, who is in this capital on an official visit, told local newsmen that Mexico and Venezuela will continue to observe their commitment to the Central American and Caribbean region of supplying crude at reduced prices, in accordance with an agreement signed in 1980 in San Jose, Costa Rica.

PSUM CHARGES GUATEMALANS RAID, KILL PEASANTS

FL131701 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0351 GMT 11 Sep 82

[Text] Mexico City, 10 Sep (NOTIMEX) -- The United Socialist Party of Mexico (PSUM) today asked Mexican authorities to demand respect for the residents of Mexico's southern border from Guatemalan authorities. According to a PSUM communique, the Kaibiles, or the Guatemalan Army's special corps, habitually raid various municipalities in Chiapas State and were responsible for the death of two peasants, one Mexican and the other Guatemalan, on Mexican soil on 30 August.

The PSUM said that communal landholders from Flor de Cafe and Monte Flor of the Chiapas municipality of Margaritas have charged that from 150 to 200 Kaibiles habitually raid the area called Ixcan. The 30 August incident, according to the PSUM version, resulted in the death of Mexican peasant Guillermo Hernandez and Pascual Felipe, a Guatemalan refugee since February, 100 meters inside the Mexican border.

The PSUM communique demands an investigation of the incident, the recognition of Guatemalan refugees settled in Chiapas, a response from General Rios Montt's administration regarding the assassinations perpetrated by the Guatemalan Army on Mexican soil and assurances for the border population of Chiapas.

ENVOY SAYS EUROPE SATISFIED WITH NATIONALIZATION

FL111930 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0342 GMT 11 Sep 82

[Text] Mexico City, 10 Sep (NOTIMEX) -- The response of European governments regarding the new economic situation in Mexico was very satisfactory, said today Jorge Eduardo Navarrete, under secretary for economic affairs of the Foreign Relations Secretariat. Interviewed at the capital's airport upon arrival from a tour through France, England and Spain, Navarrete said he had reached an understanding with the leaders of those nations which was certain to bring magnificent results for Mexico.

Navarrete and Manuel Tello, also under secretary of foreign relations, were appointed by President Jose Lopez Portillo to brief the leaders of European countries with whom Mexico has economic debts regarding the nationalization of private banks and the general control of [currency] exchange.

He said that this afternoon he would meet with Tello, who travelled to France and Germany, to work out a joint report to be presented to Foreign Secretary Jorge Castaneda, who in turn will convey it to the president. He said that the chiefs of state with whom he held talks were satisfied with Mexico's bank nationalization.

OIL EXPORT PRICES UNCHANGED IN SEPTEMBER

FL101024 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0430 GMT 10 Sep 82

[Text] Mexico City, 9 Sep (NOTIMEX) -- Pemex reported today that the price of export oil will remain at $32.50 per barrel of light crude and $25 per barrel of heavy crude for the month of September.

Pemex added that oil exports in August amounted to a daily average of 1.65 million barrels. Exports consisted of 50 percent light isthmus crude and 50 percent heavy maya crude. Pemex added that exports in the first 243 days of 1982 averaged 1,378,000 barrels.

Pemex also announced that a transportation office would be set up to ensure greater efficiency in the timely supply of production.

CANADA WISHES TO SUPPLY NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGY

FL131700 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2130 GMT 12 Sep 82

[Text] Mexico City, 12 Sep (NOTIMEX) -- Canadian nuclear experts noted today that Canadian technology for the manufacturing of nuclear reactors is still at Mexico's disposal. J.R. Candlish and M. Ganesh Ganesa, commercial director and administrative director of the Atomic Energy of Canada, respectively, noted that Canada is waiting for Mexico to resume its nuclear program since Canada is determined to participate in it.

The Canadian officials noted that in keeping with Mexico's interests, a group of Canadian industrialist was in Mexico to see how Mexican industrialists could participate in the installation of nuclear plants and thus achieve a high-level of national participation. They added that since Canada is interested in enabling Mexican industrial sectors to achieve a high-level of development so that it may gradually increase its participation in the construction of nuclear plants, Canada is willing to transfer the necessary technology.

Regarding the financial situation, the Canadian officials noted that whenever the Federal Electricity Commission (CFE) decides to start its nuclear program, Atomic Energy of Canada will submit an offer that meets Mexican interests and needs.

They added that Canada is still willing to supply Mexico with a 600-megawatt nuclear reactor that operates with natural uranium and heavy water. They noted that this reactor is similar to the one that Canada has installed in Korea, and that the construction of this program is proceeding according to schedule.

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Regarding the fuel cycle, they noted that Canada's offer includes the installation of one (or more) heavy water plants which will allow Mexico to be self-sufficient in this area.

NICARAGUANS JOIN IN INTELLECTUAL DIALOGUE

PA131604 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 13 Sep 82

[Text] Mexico City -- At the dialogue of the Americas meeting being held at the anthropology museum in Mexico City, the Nicaraguan delegation presented a document entitled Intellectuals and the Peoples' Sovereignty.

The members of the Nicaraguan delegation, led by Culture Minister Ernesto Cardenal, noted during their presentation that, as they were assigned this theme and as ideas might be developed that can contribute to an exploration of the various theories dealing with the concept of sovereignty, particularly since the Nicaraguan intellectuals and artists are engaged in a tremendous daily struggle fro the very purpose of preserving their sovereignty, they decided to offer this forum an explanation of this specific struggle, including the factors that make the danger of an attack against Nicaragua, its freedom and independence so imminent.

The Nicaraguan delegates also noted that today, more than ever before, the Latin American and Caribbean countries are in need of real and effective solidarity from the U.S. people, the same kind of solidarity that demonstrated, during the struggle against imperialist attacks in Vietnam, the contradiction that exists between the U.S. Government's warmongering, adventurous, imperialist policy and the U.S. people's attitude.

COLUMNIST SCOFFS AT CRITICS OF NUTTING'S COMMENTS

PA131905 Panama City MATUTINO in Spanish 13 Sep 82 pp 10-A, 6-B

[From "Monday's Notes" by Harmodio Icaza]

[Text] It is unbelievable that anyone should brand General Nutting's statement as interventionism, particularly when both the opposition and government political parties have welcomed and in some cases even supported Ruben Dario Paredes' return to the National Guard command. The fact that Nutting should recognize this and what it means and then should voice his best wishes for peace with freedom in no way interferes with us.

Such a reaction is typical of the communists, who blame the CIA for everything that happens; or of the old-fashioned rightwing, which sees macabre leftist plots everywhere. Enough of this witch-hunt.

PRESIDENT DE LA ESPRIELLA MEETS WITH ARIAS MADRID

PA112143 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 1700 GMT 11 Sep 82

[Excerpt] President Ricardo de la Espriella met this morning with banana worker leaders of Puerto Armuelles in Chiriqui Province. Our colleague and RPC correspondent, Jorge Concepcion, reports by telephone from David to give us more details on this meeting.

[Begin telephone relay] President Ricardo de la Espriella, who is the president of all Panamanians, is not the president of a political party or company, but the president from Colombia to Costa Rica. So said Armulfo Arias Madrid upon introducing the president to his employees. Three-time president Armulfo Arias Madrid expressed himself in these terms on welcoming De La Espriella and his retinue made of of Gen Ruben Dario Paredes, Cols Armando Abel Contreras and Manuel Antonio Noriega, all accompanied by their wives.

The distinguished guests arrived at the Arco Iris farm in Boquete, which is Dr Arias' residence, at noon yesterday. Hildebrando Nicosia and Arturo Dominguez accompanied the Panamenist leader during his meeting with the president and ranking military leaders. During the luncheon, hosted by Dr Arias and in return for the dinner held for him by the president on 13 August at the presidential palace, they discussed various topics. The meeting was characterized by the unity and well-being that is desired in the country. At the end of the meeting, the visitors toured the main facilities of the Arco Iris farm. Commenting on the results of the meeting, General Paredes said that it had been harmonious, very peaceful, and above all, characterized by national untiy. This meeting of President de la Espriella, General Paredes and Colonels Contreras and Noriega with Dr Arnulgo Arias Madrid is part of a working visit which the president is making to Chiriqui Province.

The president met last night with producers and members of the Chiriqui Chamber of Commerce headed by Rafael Stanziola, who took advantage of the opportunity to reiterate to the president his appreciation for the confidence bestowed in him on appointing him governor. But, as he had stated in his letter, he could not accept because he was engaged in reorganizing his firm.

President de la Espriella travelled today to Puerto Armuelles where he met with leaders of the Chiriqui Land Company Workers Union to discuss their problems. In the afternoon the president will visit Fortuna project to learn of the progress underway. Last night milk producers voiced their concern to the president that they are not getting paid according to the official price of milk. [end relay]

Denies Pact With Arias Madrid

PA131851 Panama City CRITICA in Spanish 13 Sep 82 pp 1, 22

[By Guillermo Antonio Adames and Erich Rodriguez Auerbach]

[Excerpts] Arnulfo Arias Madrid hosted a luncheon Friday for the country's top government leaders in reciprocation for the dinner given him at the presidency of the republic. Constitutional President Ricardo de la Espirella gave CRITICA an exclusive report on the event, which took place in an atmosphere of cordiality and respect.

No Conditions

In view of the speculation about a political pact between the official sector and Panamenism, President de la Espirella made it clear that Arias has asked for nothing in return for his personal contribution to the cause of national unity. "The former president has displayed an attitude of exceptional generosity and absolute unselfishness," the chief executive explained, adding that no political pact has been entered into with the Panamenists because they have not demanded it and the government has not offered it.

President de la Espriella stressed that the Panamenist leader has asserted that he is ready to make any personal sacrifice necessary to allow the country to go on living in peace.

After touring Arias' Arco Iris farm, De La Espirella went on with his working tour of Chiriqui Province, visiting Puerto Armuelles and the Fortuna hydroelectric project.

USSR, CUBA RANK HIGH IN GRANTING SCHOLARSHIPS

PA111734 Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 10 Sep 82 pp 1-A, 10-A

[Excerpt] The Human Resources Education and Training Institute, Ifarhu, yesterday released a document detailing the scholarships granted to Panama through that institution by several European and Latin American countries. The document also includes Israel and Japan. It presents a list of the scholarships that about 30 countries granted to Panama during 1980, 1981 and so far this year. In the list one can see such contrasts as the fact that Russia has granted a total of 35 scholarships while the United States has only granted 2. The Latin American country which has offered our country the biggest number of scholarships is Cuba with 29, followed very closely by Belize with 25.

BRIEFS

ISRAELI AMBASSADOR -- The Honorable Joseph Hasin is the new ambassador appointed by the Israeli Government to Panama. [Panama City LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 1 Sep 82 p 32 PA]

NEW SIP DIRECTORS -- The General Assembly of the Union of Panamanian Industrialists, SIP, meeting on 30 August, elected its board of directors for the 1982 to 1983 period, as follows: Carlos A. Hoffman, president; Ignacio Mallon, first vice president; Juan Pascual, second vice president; Americo Quintero, treasurer; Ricardo Brin, assistant treasurer; Raul Barraza, secretary general; Dario Selles, assistant secretary general; George Richa, Mario Rognoni and David Dayan, members. [Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 1 Sep 82 pp A-1, A-10 PA]

PARLIAMENTARY APPOINTMENT -- Luis de Leon Arias, president of the Panamanian National Assembly of Corregimiento Representatives, has been named deputy secretary general of the Latin American Parliament. [Panama City MATUTINO in Spanish 1 Sep 82 pp 1-A, 6-B PA]

COSTA RICA

MONGE CONFIRMS MEDIATION EFFORTS ON EL SALVADOR

PA140222 Paris AFP in Spanish 2032 GMT 13 Sep 82

[Text] San Jose, 13 Sep (AFP) -- President Luis Alberto Monge has confirmed here that the Costa Rican Government has begun mediation efforts between the opposition and the Salvadoran Government. Monge sent Foreign Minister Fernando Volio to San Salvador on a quick trip that had been kept secret until today. Monge met here last week with Guillermo Ungo, president of the Revolutionary Democratic Front (FDR) of El Salvador, who has the same Social Democratic leanings as Monge, it has been learned from reliable sources. According to the sources, they spoke on the possibility of promoting a dialogue among the various Salvadoran political sectors. The president entrusted Foreign Minister Volio with the task of notifying Magana of the FDR proposal whose content has yet to be publicly released.

In remarks after his meeting with Ungo, the Costa Rican president said that the Costa Rican Government approves of "everything that is done to obtain a solution of the crisis that is being experienced by Central America in general and El Salvador in particular."

"I know that the situation has reached very delicate levels, but we will persevere in our efforts to achieve a peaceful solution of the conflict," Monge added after indicating that the Salvadoran opposition leader had expressed his desire to him to hold a dialogue with his country's government.

On his return from El Salvador, the Costa Rican foreign minister said that he had taken no document from Guillermo Ungo to the Salvadoran president, thus denying a report in this regard by a local newspaper. Volio merely said, "I carried out the mission that the president entrusted to me and I subsequently reported to him on the results." Volio did not explain the nature of the mission. According to press circles, the proposal carried by the Costa Rican foreign minister contained three essential aspects:

The formation of a mixed commission that would draft regulations for the talks.

The subjects discussed in the dialogue would be kept secret.

The drafting of a final document that would put an end to the war in that country.

The possibility of negotiations with the guerrillas has been repeatedly rejected by the Salvadoran Government, which has made as an essential condition the laying down of weapons by the guerrillas before any dialogue begins.

EL SALVADOR

DEFENSE MINISTER'S PRESS CONFERENCE 13 SEP

PA140004 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1944 GMT 13 Sep 82

[News conference by Salvadoran Defense Minister Gen Jose Guillermo Garcia at the Armed Forces Press Committee office in San Salvador -- live]

[Excerpts] [Question] In the last few days, the government has said that the attacks by the leftist guerrillas have decreased considerably, that the armed forces are in full control of the situation in the country and that the conflict could end in the next month, in October. As chief of the armed forces and defense minister, how do you view the situation?

[Answer] I can say that it is true that the situation has improved. However, that does not mean this is true to the degree that one may predict the definite time in days, weeks or months when this could end. We, like all the Salvadoran people, would like this to have already ended or to end today. Unfortunately, this does not depend exclusively on the attitude of the armed institution despite all its efforts to end this problem.

It depends to a great degree on the attitude of the subversives, who must realize and convince themselves that they do not have popular backing and that their effort, that effort made by them, our brothers -- because they are Salvadorans even though there are of course foreigners helping them [phrase as heard] They are Salvadorans who are struggling, according to them, for a cause that they consider just -- I think they might have already reached the conclusion that they do have no support from the Salvadoran people. Therefore, we believe that they cannot be successful in their actions. That is why I insist that this situation does not exclusively depend on the armed institution, but on the attitude the subversives might have about their cause. Of course we do not think there is reason for their cause since it has been amply demonstrated that they do not have the people's support.

[Question] It is said that the armed forces or the government are apparently talking with the guerrillas to secure the release of Colonel Castillo in exchange for an arrested member of the FDR [Revolutionary Democratic Front]. Is this true?

[Answer] That is completely false. We have had nothing to do with exchanges, arrangements or dialogues to secure his release. You are aware of other actions which have been carried out and in which we have not participated. Of course, the only thing we want is the release of the deputy defense minister, who is being held by those organizations. We have always said that this seeks to break a situation that is acceptable nationally and internationally. [sentence as heard] Therefore, our request is solely and exclusively directed at asking for Colonel Castillo's release since we feel that his captivity should be interpreted nationally and internationally as being outside the law.

[Question] In your view, since when have you achieved a decrease of guerrilla activity? [sentence indistinct]

[Answer] I can say that in perhaps the last 2 or 3 months we have more markedly noticed the attitude of these people who have decided to surrender. I would not say in great numbers, but in acceptable numbers, given our expectations. Despite their fear and the threats against them, these people present themselves to the various military units with their weapons and with the feeling that they are there because they are repentant; second, because they feel that no reason exists for the struggle and third, because they agree with what is acceptable in the country. Those are the conditions that they express [words indistinct] to guarantee the lives, freedom and movement of these people. Of course, we do not underestimate the dangers they run because they could be hunted down or threatened by those who do not want them to leave those organizations. But I do want to tell you that in the last 2 or 3 months we have noticed a marked increase in the flow of people. Let us not say that they are people who are deserting, but that they are people who have become convinced that there is no reason to continue the struggle.

[Question] Can you tell me about the situation of the 40 soldiers who were recently freed by the guerrillas?

[Answer] They are being submitted to the special treatment called for by their condition. That is what I can tell you. They are under observation and are being treated as they want considering their condition. As a responsible institution, we are doing this.

[Question] Minister, Radio YSU would like to tell the people what steps the Salvadoran Army plans to take after receiving 48 soldiers from the guerrillas?

[Answer] Steps in what sense?

[Question] Steps in the sense of acting in a reciprocal manner or taking some specific step?

[Answer] Absolutely none. We have procedures which are acceptable in the institution and which naturally signify the reason for the existence of the armed institution. We have never agreed to reciprocities of any kind at any time. We have maintained this, we maintain this now and we will continue to do so. There is absolutely no kind of commitment that could compromise the armed institution.

[Question] General Garcia, yesterday in San Vicente Department there were at least two guerrilla incursions: one in El Playon, and the other was an ambush near San Sebastian. Those were the two, or rather, at least two of the incursions. It has also been reported that there are large guerrilla camps in at least three large areas of Usulutan. In the past week, it was reported that the guerrillas reached Nueva Trinidad in Chalatenango and looted everything because there was no one there. There are also camps in Santa Ana, San Miguel, Morazan and several other parts of the country. I would like you to give us some information about whether the situation regarding the strength of the guerrillas has changed substantially in the past 6 months.

[Answer] You know that propaganda plays an important role in this struggle. I am sure that some of the data that you mention are basically due to the kind of propaganda that they carry out to try to raise their supporters' morale by making them believe [does not complete sentence].We obtain this information from people who defect from those organizations. They tell us what they are told: that the war is almost over; that almost everything has been won; that only a few days more are needed, or that all that remains is to take the capital. This is how they operate. However, reality is a different matter of course.

[Question] General Garcia, recently you [words indistinct] armed forces in politics. In what way could this possibility jeopardize [words indistinct]?

[Answer] In absolutely no way. I wish to say that we advocate that the armed forces be apolitical. We believe that the fact that the armed forces have divorced themselves from political parties has been one of the triumphs [break in transmission] armed forces a situation of party politics, but was present to guarantee the elections to ensure that they would be honest, for the benefit of the Salvadoran people.

However, I also wish to say that the fact that the armed forces are apolitical does not mean that their members should know nothing about politics. On the contrary, they should know about high-level politics, about political leadership, as should be the case of any citizens and of course, of any professional, primarily El Salvador's professional soldiers.

Regarding our participation in organizations that have nothing to do with political parties, we believe that the military command and its representatives are the ones who should analyze and study the purely political, but not party-related aspects of national leadership. This role is assigned to us by Constitution, by decree, by interests, by conviction and by virtue of the fact that we are the representatives of the armed institution. That is the distinction that I could make as regards this assessment.

[Question] General, do the armed forces have any plans to request more aid [words indistinct]

[Answer] Remember that our policy has always been not to make absolute requests for advisers in our territory. [as heard] If they have been permitted, it has been because of bilateral advantages, specifically to improve our training levels. That is what I could tell you on this subject.

However, regarding our plans, I would like to say that our needs are not news; for a long time we have been noting them to the appropriate persons in order that our needs may be met -- perhaps not immediately, right this minute, bit in the future. Like any armed institution anywhere in the world, we are always trying to show foresight to guarantee not so much our present, but our future needs. That is what we are doing as regards establishing our future needs.

[Question] General, do you think that the training that some of the troops have received in the United States has had an important effect on the troops' efficiency and how could we, as journalists, note that improvement?

[Answer] Of course, I can say with pleasure that we have seen a definite improvement. Moreover, it is indisputable that any kind of special training like that which our people received in the United States should produce differences. Of course, we have noted this in the results of the operations that have been carried out recently. Worthy of note, for example, was the operation in San Vicente. For the first time, no one was killed. You will remember that the ambush was not a part of this military operation that was underway in San Vicente, the ambush occurred far from the area in which the operation was taking place. However, with great satisfaction, I can tell you that during this military operation, for the first time we did not have a single death. This speaks well of the level of training and for the competence of our people as a result of this training.

Of course, you will have heard, you know from what source, that there were 1,000 or 1,500 deaths. However, all the Salvadoran people know that this is just the propaganda that is heard over and over again. That is all.

[Question] General, what is the present situation regarding supplies for the subversives from abroad?

[Answer] It has continued, not at the former levels, but it still exists. I wish to say -- and I do not wish to deceive you but to tell the truth -- that the provision of war materiel to those people has continued, mainly by air and at night. This, as we have always admitted, is one of our weaknesses, the fact that we have not been able to control it definitely. However, you can be sure that we are doing everything possible to control this activity, which has continued. Of course, those little planes that come here are not coming from France or any such distance. They come from close by. We can say it: They come from Nicaragua.

[Question] At the end of the last military offensive operation in San Vicente, exactly how many guerrilla casualties were there?

[Answer] If I am not mistaken, there were approximately 54 casualties in the northern part and approximately 223 or 225 in the southern part. In total it is the result we have mentioned, as far as the amount is concerned.

[Question] Some local stations say women, children and elderly people died among the guerrilla casualties reported by the armed forces. What is your opinion?

[Answer] That is part of the scheme of confusion they are setting up to influence public opinion. But in all honesty, I want to tell you that we have tried to investigate this and the results have been completely negative. Of course, I don't wish, at this time, to deny that on some occasions innocent people may have died in some action. I am not going to deny this. But it has taken place sporadically and in other places, and not as they try to portray it, disregarding what really happened.

[Question] Then you [words indistinct] were by accident or wounds, how many civilians died during this operation?

[Answer] I could not tell you. But I do want to tell you that some people have died, maybe people who had nothing to do with the problem. But we refer back to your first question regarding how to determine who is a guerrilla and who is not. It is very difficult to make that judgement.

[Question] General, about one week ago some reporters tried to go to Amatitan Arriba canton where peasants and a civil defense commander denounced the death of several unarmed persons, possibly most of them guerrilla supporters. They could not go in because the troops stationed there did not let us go beyond the town of Santa Clara. May I ask: Is it possible for some reporters to go there to see how the place was left?

[Answer] I believe that if there was no permission for you to go into the place you were so interested in, it was due purely to combat reasons, so that you must understand that circumstances so demand. Please be sure that as soon as there is a chance for you to go, you may do so, if you are so interested. Be sure that you may tell the world the truth, that you may tell exactly what happened there. Your interest also speaks about the interest you might have in telling the truth. Please be sure that we have no objections whatsoever to lending you the facilities to make your analyses and tell the world the truth.

[Question] When did [words indistinct] the Salvadoran territory?

[Answer] What I can tell you is that there are understandings with Honduras because we have mutual interests. We are not carrying out combined operations which could be considered as absolute coordination aimed at specific places. I do wish to say, however, that both Honduras and El Salvador have the fair right to watch out for our respective security: we in El Salvador and they in Honduras.

[Question] General Garcia, from the military point of view, how do the chiefs of staff see the military preparedness of the guerrillas? Have their capabilities diminished or grown?

[Answer] Because of the time that has passed, we must admit of course that it has grown, since time is what gives experience. But that does not mean that it has grown in such a way as to make us absolutely and completely worried. But we must admit that these people have been trained in other countries and that they have not been hastily trained, but have been trained for a long time and a long time ago. We must acknowledge that. We must also acknowledge our soldiers' attitude. They do not face common citizens as the world has been made to believe. Some people have made the world believe that subversives here run around with arrows and that they throw arrows and go around with machetes and that that is how they operate. No. We all know by now how they came to show their belligerant, fully operational action of struggling to oppose the people's interests. How did they show up? With weapons that we lacked most of the time. That is the attitude of those who want to make them appear simple, humble people who run around with arrows and who must be pitied because they can do nothing.

In time, their capabilities must have grown, but that -- and this is basic -- does not mean that they have improved. Do you know why? Because they have been daily losing popular support and that is maybe the main weapon in this type of struggle. Thank God, we are proud and thankful to our people for being able to say that each day we enjoy more support from the courageous Salvadoran people.

In this same vein, I think it is worthwhile to ask that you help us propagate our idea, as an armed institution, for the Salvadoran people to join us in the patriotic ceremonies of next 15 September, which represent the celebration of our true independence, our real independence and the independence we must preserve. May we obviously keep alive remembrances of those men who bequeathed to posterity their interest in justice and freedom such as the Delgados, the Arces, the Aguilars. They are our true patriots, those whom brainwashers want to absolutely destroy. They will live forever, the Aguilars, the Delgados, the Arces, and that is what we are going to celebrate on 15 September. On that day we will hold a rally to revive tradition and the patriotic sentiments of good Salvadorans. Courageous Salvadorans will be there with us, not to win applause or admiration, but just to say that we are here, as Salvadorans, side by side with the soldier who risks his life to defend the interests of all Salvadorans.

We issue a cordial invitation for all parents to take their children and teach them respect for the symbols of the homeland and tell them that even as children they must have the civic spirit to show other nations the patriotic feelings we Salvadorans have.

We ask children to invite their parents to attend these events which only demonstrate the feelings of the people who remember their heroes and martyrs.

[Question] Is it true that two new battalions will be announced during Wednesday's ceremony?

[Answer] One new battalion and one that you already know. However, they are Salvadoran battalions. It has been said that the U.S. citizens are going to march and that the U.S. citizens are going to appear and that this will be done so that the Salvadoran people can get used to the occupation of the U.S. citizens. You see what these reports are like, right? No, they are Salvadorans and those who are going to march are Salvadorans. We have invited the U.S. citizens. I am sure that Nicaragua is not going to invite U.S. citizens. They invite other people, the Russians and the Cubans, all of which is in direct relationship to their interests. However, we are friends with U.S. citizens and I think we have the right to invite them. They are going to parachute and it seems that they are going to compete with the Salvadorans. We will see who has better training: the Americans or the Salvadorans.

However, it is the Salvadoran soldier who is going to be on parade, the brave Salvadoran soldier who wears his military uniform with pride.

[Question] Was this new battalion trained by U.S. advisers?

[Answer] It is the one trained in the United States, the glorious Belloso Battalion. It will be there on 15 September.

[Question] But the new battalion?

[Answer] It is the new battalion. You know that it is a new organization that was recently in the United States and is now here. It will receive its banner, which it has not yet received. We want to do this with the Salvadoran people as witnesses.

[Question] General, the military parade tomorrow will be the first, I believe, since 1978. What does this demonstrate? Is it proof of new confidence, of new control over all the urban centers in the country?

[Answer] No, we are just returning to our good tradition of patriotic celebrations. This has always taken place and the people always ask to see the soldiers marching, parading with pride as tangible proof of the Salvadoran armed forces' confidence that they will be able to resolve this situation, and do it promptly God willing.

The reason for this patriotic celebration is very emotional, very definite: It is peace. That is what we want. We want to tell our brothers who are over there, who have a mentality different from ours, that there is no reason for them to continue struggling. We want to tell them that our soldiers are intensifying their desire for peace and that they should contribute to this by realizing that there is no reason for what they are doing, that if their leaders want to take power, then they should put down their weapons and seek the peoples' votes. Then, through political action, they will be able to obtain power.

GOVERNMENT DENIES KNOWLEDGE OF UNGO'S LETTER

PA132331 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 0055 GMT 13 Sep 82

[Text] The Salvadoran Government has denied any knowledge of a document that news agencies report as having been sent from Costa Rica by Guillermo Manuel Ungo to President Alvaro Magana through Costa Rican President Luis Alberto Monge, according to presidential house spokesmen. Guillermo Manuel Ungo is a member of the Revolutionary Democratic Gront.

On Sunday officials of the presidency told the 'News Focus' program that the government has no information about the report from Costa Rica, implying that the Costa Rican Government is willing to act as mediator in negotiations between the Salvadoran Government and the guerrillas. If this were true, it would have to be discussed by the different government sectors and the parties comprising the so-called government of national unity, said the source.

FMLN LEADER OFFERS TALKS WITH HONDURAN OFFICIALS

PA100350 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 8 Sep 82

[Text] Managua -- It was confirmed yesterday that the FMLN and the Revolutionary Democratic Front [FDR] of El Salvador are prepared to talk with Honduran military personnel and the Honduran Government. (Arnoldo Bernard Chevez), a member of the FMLN-FDR International Relations Committee, told ANN in Managua that his organizations have nothing against the Honduran Army and that they are promoting a dialogue with that country's leaders. However, he warned, if Honduras regionalizes the conflict, the Salvadoran patriots will carry the war into Honduran territory.

(Chevez) described Honduran involvement in El Salvador as a dangerous venture and explained that the guerrillas have been ordered to respond to the Honduran troops' fire if they are attacked in Salvadoran territory. The leader added that an intervention by the Honduran Army in Nicaragua or El Salvador is equivalent to the presence of U.S. troops in Central America, because that is the Reagan administration's plan.

REPORTAGE ON RADIO VENCEREMOS BROADCASTS

U.S. Troops Criticized

PA111804 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0230 GMT 11 Sep 82

[Text] With the presence of U.S. troops in our country, the Salvadoran Armed Forces are preparing to celebrate the 15 September national holiday. U.S. paratroopers will participate in joint maneuvers with the Salvadoran paratroop brigade and the U.S. Southern Command's 193d Infantry Brigade, which is stationed in Panama. They will be the official guests of the festivities. The presence of U.S. Troops confirms once more the antipatriotic alliance that the Salvadoran Armed Forces signed with the U.S. Government.

Guazapa Bombed, U.S. Blamed

PA130415 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0230 GMT 13 Sep 82

[Text] During our direct contact with Cerro Guazapa our companeros in that FMLN area reported that U.S. A-37 airplanes bombed and strafed areas in Guazapa and massacred three civilians. Here is the information we received from Guazapa:

On 12 September at 1700 two A-37 airplanes bombed and indiscriminately strafed the zones of Palo Grande, El Salitre and El Roble in Guazapa. Three civilians were killed in this action.

Again the A-37 airplanes, given by Reagan, murder our Salvadoran people. The imperialist intervention through its weapons continues the genocide. These are the same airplanes, the same weapons and the same intervention that the dictatorship will display during the circus it will hold on 15 September, independence day, at the Flor Blanca Stadium where U.S. Troops [word indistinct] the dignity of our people.

GUATEMALA

GOVERNMENT RELEASES ALLEGED COUP SUSPECTS

PA101736 Guatemala City Radio-Television Guatemala in Spanish 0400 GMT 9 Sep 82

[Excerpt] (Hector Baldizon Fernandez), former candidate for deputy from Chiquimula, nominated by the MLN [National Liberation Movement] in the 7 March elections, who was linked with persons accused in an alleged plot against the government of General Rios Montt, was released this morning together with other prisoners. (Baldizon Fernandez) gave an account of his release and pointed out that all persons arrested for the alleged coup were victims of slander.

[Begin (Baldizon Fernandez) recording] This morning at approximately 0900 we left the II Corps police headquarters and were taken to general police headquarters, where we were told that the presidency of the republic had ordered our release. This was most gratifying, at least as far as I was concerned, as I considered justice had been done. At no time had we plotted to carry out a coup. It would be childish to think that civilians could do such a thing. The arms are controlled by the army; therefore, we civilians cannot do anything in that respect.

Rios Montt on Release

PA132012 Guatemala City Radio-Television Guatemala in Spanish 0400 GMT 13 Sep 82

[Text] President Efrain Rios Montt said today that the government has released nine people charged with organizing a plot to overthrow him. The president also said this morning that he is sure that they did participate in the conspiracy: [Begin Rios Montt recording] They should be released today. However, that would be the court's decision as it is not in my domain to render justice. I think it was established that they were guilty. Even an arrest is punishment; or do you think that the fact that they were deprived of their liberty, that they were in jail for 23 days, that they were held incommunicado meant nothing to them? [end recording]

HONDURAS

PRESIDENT SUAZO DEFENDS ARMED FORCES CHIEF

PA132135 Tegucigalpa Voz de Honduras Network in Spanish 1145 GMT 13 Sep 82

[Speech by Honduran President Roberto Suazo Cordova during rally in the city of La Paz "this weekend" -- recorded]

[Excerpt] With our shared ideals and the fraternal feelings that exist among our people, Army and government, I wish to tell you that the conscientious people of Honduras, the Liberal Party, my government and the president of the republic fully support the chiefs, officers, noncommissioned officers and soldiers in our glorious Honduran Armed Forces. [applause]

I would like to take advantage of this occasion to keep anybody from confusing our people. In some country to the north, someone whose name I don't want to mention because the Honduran people already know it, has tried to tarnish the stripes of our Armed Forces chief, Brig Gen Gustavo Adolfo Alvarez Martinez, through slander and infamy. [applause]

This has indirect repercussions on the Armed Forces and on other Army officers. However, this is what the Honduran people are here for; this is what my constitutional government is here for: to fully support our men in uniform because both the people and the Army must march together at this time of convulsion in Central America, when the horsemen of the Apocalypse with their poisoned hearts rage and dissolution (?occurs) while they try to disrupt the Honduran people's peace and tranquillity. And those beings, whom I regard as suffering from indigestion because they can't assimilate goodness, are trying to sow the seed of evil and hatred among the Honduran people, among humble men and women. However, in this country, those who guarantee order, peace and public tranquillity as well as our sovereignty and territorial integrity -- the Honduran Armed Forces -- will not let anyone [word indistinct] our sovereignty and territorial integrity. [applause]

This must be our firm decision, our unyielding position: If we must shed our blood, let our generous blood serve to make the tree of freedom, justice and democracy in our beloved homeland, Honduras, more beautiful and luxuriant. [applause]

We must strengthen our incipient democracy. We have already repeated that we are calm and peaceful men but that with the support of the people and the Armed Forces, we are willing to preserve order, peace, and tranquillity throughout Honduras. [applause]

U.S. ARMY TO EXPAND THREE LOCAL AIRPORTS

PA121233 Paris AFP in Spanish 2123 GMT 11 Sep 82

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 11 Sep (AFP) -- The U.S. Army will construct landing strips for three Honduran airports that will be expanded based on an agreement with the Honduran government, it was reported here. The U.S. Government has approved a $21-million program for improving these airports, which it may use in emergency situations" according to the terms of a bilateral agreement. The airports to be refurbished are in Comayagua, in the central region of the country; San Pedro Sula, in the midwest; and La Ceiba, on the Atlantic Coast. Official sources said that the work will begin at the outset of October.

NICARAGUA

COMMENTARY ENDORSES MORATORIUM ON DEBT REPAYMENT

PA102325 Managua International Service in Spanish 1230 GMT 10 Sep 82

[Station commentary]

[Text] Despite differences in purpose and activity, the Toronto IMF meeting and the Managua FAO conference have one basic point in common: their concern over the international economic crisis. While the United States distinguishes itself in Toronto as a merciless moneylender because it voted against the majority's decision to increase the IMF resources, in Managua 30 countries have come out in favor of a general moratorium on the payment of foreign debts. At the two meetings, two opposing aspects regarding the worst crisis in world capitalism in the last 50 years have been clearly expressed.

On one side we have the interests of the developed countries, especially those of the United States, which even unloads the crisis on its European allies. On the other side we have the needs of the underdeveloped countries, continually oppressed by a particularly anguishing situation in view of the current crisis. Anyone can understand that there would be natural differences of interest between the developed nations and the nations struggling with underdevelopment and backwardness. What cannot be understood or accepted is the difference in the price to be paid by one or the other in view of the world crisis.

While the developed nations are concerned with stabilizing interest rates, the parity of their currency and creating an environment of trust during this crisis, the poor countries face malnutrition, worsening public health and increased hunger.

While in a developed country the crisis means that the freeway project will not proceed or the modern shopping mall will not be built, in a Third World country the crisis means that the hospital for that distant region and those schools, so badly needed, will not be built.

While the crisis will keep the U.S. man of the middle class from getting a new car this year, 15 million children will die of malnutrition in the underdeveloped world.

As commander of the Revolution Daniel Ortega, coordinator of the junta of the government of National Reconstruction, said when he inaugurated the FAO conference, this is neither a fair, logical nor rational situation. The crushing reality of the crisis falls on the peoples whose only protection is, in most cases, the will to survive. In some cases, in an ever-increasing manner, this will become a revolutionary struggle because a change of system is the only historic solution to capitalist oppression. But the awareness of the common origin of the problem requires countries with very different political profiles to adopt the same defense criteria.

Brotherhood in disgrace, the overwhelming problem, exhausting the misleading traditional solutions and the international character of the crisis generate a common will among the dependent nations.

The Third World spirit is strengthened in the face of the common oppression to which the dependent nations are subjected. This spirit does not question the right that the residents of the developed countries may have to their worldly goods. However, it does demand a fair deal from the developed nations. It demands the right to prevent the children from dying of hunger; it demands the right to not have to stop building schools and hospitals to pay the foreign debt; it demands the right of not going bankrupt because of the transnationals' voracity and the refusal to grant the necessary financial aid.

The Third World nations, nations that can blame their poverty on plunder and exploitation first by the colonialists and later by the imperialists, are within their rights when they demand a general moratorium on the payment of their foreign debts. The developed countries that owe their wealth to the underdeveloped countries' poverty have the obligation to honor this demand.

SEVENTEENTH REGIONAL FAO CONFERENCE ENDS 10 SEP

PA111932 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 11 Sep 82

[Excerpt] The most important FAO event at the Latin American level concluded yesterday with the speeches delivered by Mexican Ambassador Augusto Gomez Villanueva, who spoke on behalf of the delegations; Regional FAO Director Mario Jalil; and Commander of the Revolution Jaime Wheelock, president of the 17th FAO conference. The last plenary session was dedicated to the approval of a 70-page report (177 paragraphs) drafted by a commission presided over by Colombian delegate (Gonzalo Bula Hoyos).

At the last session, the delegations of Peru, Colombia, Ecuador and Venezuela introduced a draft resolution calling for Latin American solidarity and cooperation among the various UN institutions that operate in the region in veiw of the serious economic crisis currently affecting these countries and the worrisome reduction in the economic aid provided by special agencies. This document was unanimously approved.

Meanwhile, Venezuelan delegate (Hector Hernandez) proposed a declaration inviting the FAO to adopt initiatives in support of Nicaragua, which has been affected by natural disasters that endanger its food production. Regarding this issue, (Pedro Jesus Blandon), director of the National Food Program, PAN, read a brief but well-documented report on the efforts of the heavy rains and droughts that have affected the country.

After the meeting, a moving gathering took place among Sandinist People's Army combatants, Interior Ministry officials and all the officials and cadres concerned with the many organizational and logistical tasks connected with the event. In addition to Commander Wheelock and Regional FAO Director Jalil, the gathering was attended by Commanders of the Revolution Hugo Torres and Omar Cabezas.

Radio Sandino recorded the final moments of this successful FAO conference, which closed yesterday at the Augusto Cesar Silva convention center. Commander of the Revolution Wheelock Roman's moving closing speech follows:

[Begin Wheelock recording] [broadcast in progress] ...recognizes the warm resolution, marked by solidarity -- this resolution, by the way, was unanimously approved by all countries -- which demands emergency aid from the World Food Program, the FAO, and other institutions at this time when a new natural disaster is affecting our people and keeping us from satisfying the Nicaraguan people's basic needs.

On our behalf and that of Nicaragua and our people, please convey to your respective countries and your peoples a message of sincere and deep friendship. Amid our limitations, we have tried to make a very big effort to guarantee a venue for this very important event. [end recording]

AGRICULTURAL ASSEMBLY ISSUES FINAL RESOLUTION

PA131857 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 13 Sep 82

[Text] The basic decision reached by the delegates to the first UNAG [National Union of Farmers and Cattlemen] national assembly was to increase the levels of agricultural and livestock production and to defend the revolution, UNAG President Narciso Gonzalez said at the closing ceremony yesterday at the Ruben Dario People's Theater.

Faithful to the principles upon which UNAG was founded, after 3 days of work the delegates issued their final document, which was read in the presence of Commander of the Revolution Daniel Ortega, coordinator of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction; Commander of the Revolution Victor Tirado Lopez; special guests; and more than 600 delegates from throughout the country.

Gonzalez stressed that the small and medium producers made their decision after considering the current crisis in Nicaragua and in reply to Yankee imperialism, the main promoter and author of so much misery in Latin America. We are ready to plow the soil and to pick up the rifle; we will make the land produce and we will defend the revolution, as they both belong to us, UNAG President Narcisco Gonzalez concluded.

CUBA SENDS WORKERS, MACHINERY TO REPAIR BRIDGES

PA131828 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 13 Sep 82

[Text] Construction work on nine bridges in the Departments of Leon and Chinandega is advancing at a slow pace as a result of rain over the past few days, which has delayed the construction of the foundations. A representative of the Extra newscast visited the bridge over Rio Negro on Saturday and noticed that the work performed by the Celia Sanchez Construction Brigade from the Cuban Construction Ministry, made up of 30 internationalists, is advancing slowly.

(Florentino Ondon), who directs the work at Rio Negro in Chinandega, said that since the work began 2 months ago they have constructed three foundations and six columns, but that they are confronting problems with the installation of the upper portions [cabezales]. The original bridge over Rio Negro was dynamited by a counterrevolutionary band. For his part, (Manuel Perez Gonzalez) [not further identified] said that the nine bridges will be finished by March next year, in accordance with plans.

One hundred construction workers, all of them Cubans, are participating in the program to reconstruct bridges in the western part of the country. The Cuban Government has sent various equipment and machinery, such as drills, three cranes and several trucks, as an example of their solidarity with the Nicaraguan people. The experts and workers also receive their salaries from the Cuban Government.

PRIEST DEFENDS REVOLUTION AT UN HEADQUARTERS

PA140336 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 14 Sep 82

[Text] Uriel Molina, a Nicaraguan priest who is the director of the Valdivieso Center in Managua, proclaimed at UN headquarters today the right of Christians to form part of his country's revolutionary process, which he described as legitimate. Molina said that there are differences between the Nicaraguan Episcopal conference and the Christian-base communities that are actively participating in the country's political and social process, but he rejected the charges made by some sectors to the effect that the Nicaraguan revolution is an element of the so-called East-West confrontation.

COUNTERREVOLUTIONARY CLAIMS 10 COSTA RICAN CAMPS

PA111706 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 11 Sep 82

[Text] At least 10 counterrevolutionary camps operate in Costa Rican territory.

This was announced yesterday in San Jose, Costa Rica, by Jose Francisco Cardenal, also known as El Chicano, one of the leaders of the groups that operate from those camps. The counterrevolutionary Cardenal told a Costa Rican radio station that his organization, which is in collusion with the Somizist bands, has broad support among Costa Rica's wealthier classes and even has safehouses in San Jose's most exclusive neighborhoods.

We have 10 camps and plan to have many more operating here in Costa Rica because we are backed by the world's greatest power, Cardenal said, in clear reference to the economic and military support that the U.S. administration gives the sectors that oppose the Nicaraguan revolutionary process.

RELEASE OF COSEP MEMBERS TERMED PUBLICITY STUNT

PA111537 (Clandestine) Voice of Sandino in Spanish to Nicaragua 0000 GMT 10 Sep 82

[Excerpts] The so-called state council has pardoned three Nicaraguan businessmen in a measure that can only be described as ridiculous, since in the wake of the legal allegations made after members of COSEP [Higher Council of Private Enterprise] signed a letter asking for freedom and defending themselves against insults and lies launched by the group of traitors it was demonstrated that none of our laws, none of their whimsical decrees, had been violated.

Four Nicaraguan private enterprise leaders were imprisoned for 4 months. They were released as a result of the conditions imposed by Mexican President Jose Lopez Portillo in January. Three were tried and released on bond. Those three private enterprise leaders were pardoned yesterday in an unnecessary action that is intended only to give the impression of a democratization that didn't exist yesterday and doesn't exist today. In the future, this will be used as a means of consolidating their weak totalitarian forces.

While this is happening, Nicaraguan peasants in the mountains are being brutally oppressed. Two hundred Indians on the Atlantic coast are under arrest and 11,000 of them have taken refuge in Honduras. Could it be that the state council, called the People's Council, does not exist for these people?

It can be seen that the group of traitors, acting behind our people's backs, only favors the most highly publicized groups in the country because their international contacts and internal pressures have more impact than the humility and poverty of the humble peasants and brave Indian brothers on the Atlantic coast.

As a postscript to the democratization masquerade, they also released a few members of the Nicaraguan Communist Party, which is also being persecuted because it does not agree with the group of tritors or with the orders given from Moscow to use Nicaragua as a chess board for the East-West struggle in order to gain ground for international communism. This is the way they play with our people's beliefs.

BRIEFS

BATTALION 80-15 DEPARTS -- Masaya -- The members of reserve Battalion 80-15 yesterday left Masaya for somewhere in Nicaragua to protect the country's sovereignty. [Managua EL NUEVO DIARIO in Spanish 6 Sep 82 p 10 PA]

RESERVE BATTALION TRAINING -- More than 4,000 people gathered in Boaco to bid farewell to the members of reserve Battalion 60-10 and at the same time inaugurate the second instruction period for the militias. FSLN committee members who were present at the event praised the people of Boaco for their excellent combat spirit. Reserve Battalion 60-10 is composed of 19 July Sandinist Youth and peasants. [Managua EL NUEVO DIARIO in Spanish 7 Sep 82 p 7 PA]

RADIO COMMENTS ON NATION'S FINANCIAL PROBLEMS

PA140200 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 14 Sep 82

[Station commentary]

[Text] Cuba is facing temporary difficulties meeting its financial commitments to the capitalist countries. In view of this, Cuba has asked to renegotiate a portion of its foreign debt with the governments and commercial banks of the developed capitalist countries. There are two basic reasons for this: One is the application of a policy on the restriction of credits which has become common among the capitalist banks and governments as a result of the profound economic crisis being faced by that economic system, which has caused a great financial crisis.

In view of the great accumulated debt, particularly that of the underdeveloped countries, and faced with successive requests for renegotiations of their debts by many of those countries, the capitalist banks have applied a cautious policy of restriction and withdrawal of funds.

In the case of Cuba, the situation is worsened by the U.S. pressure, which has contributed to the fact that in the past 8 months over $550 million in deposits and short-term loans that international banks usually maintained in Cuba have been withdrawn. To this must be added the fact that Cuba has had to make substantial increases in interest payments as a result of the senseless economic policy imposed by Reagan. This increase totalled $195 million in 1981 and $233 million in 1982.

The other factor that influenced our decision to initiate the process of renegotiation of a part of our foreign debt was the abrupt decline in the price of sugar on the world market. It is currently $0.06. Greatly to blame for this is the sugar policy of the EEC, which maintains a policy of heavily subsidizing increasing exports of sugar and refuses to adhere to the international sugar agreement, as well as the measures imposed by the United States to restrict sugar imports.

To alleviate this situation, Cuba has had to adopt drastic measures, including a reduction of its imports from the capitalist area. While in some years such imports were as high as $1.8 billion, in 1982 the figure declined to some $600 million.

In referring to this topic in an interview with the local press, Ismael Morena, vice president of the National Bank of Cuba, said that this does not imply bankruptcy, since our country continues to receive foreign exchange from exports, which are substantial and will permit us to pay the interest and the debt that will come due from 1986 onward.

The renegotiation proposed by Cuba consists of paying on loan principals due the remainder of this year and from 1983 to 1985 over a period of 10 years, including a grace period of 3 years. If this is achieved, Morena said, the renegotiation would be beneficial in the long run for both sides since our financial situation would recover.

Of course, this situation that has arisen will bring about restrictions. Although there will be a scarcity of some raw materials that we import from capitalist countries, it is necessary to remember that the development of our economy is ensured to a great extent by the favorable relations that we maintain with the CEMA member countries, particularly the USSR. Eighty percent of our trade is with those nations. Nevertheless, it is necessary to emphasize the statement made by the vice president of the National Bank: Cuba would not like the flow of trade to be halted. That is why it proposes import and export trade with the capitalist countries, while at the same time renegotiating its debt. That is why, he said, that Cuba remains in constant contact with its suppliers to ensure that its position is not misrepresented.

COMMENTARY VIEWS UN AS ANTI-IMPERIALIST TOOL

PA121416 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 12 Sep 82

["World Events" commentary]

[Text] In his first report as UN secretary general, Javier Perez de Cuellar called for the urgent revitalization of collective security mechanisms in order to preserve world peace and strengthen the role of the top international organization, which, he said, has been seriously impaired in recent times by those who feel strong enough to disobey and ignore its resolutions. The UN secretary general's exhortation is very important at this stage in international life when imperialism is becoming increasingly arrogant and aggressive and wants to introduce its hostility everywhere. It is no secret that Washington's lack of restraint, its constant threats to peace and its close ties with the most retrogressive regimes are factors that seriously threaten the concept of collective action on behalf of peace and security as established in the UN Charter.

Could anyone doubt that the disregard demonstrated by both South Africa and Israel for the resolutions issued by the top international organization is a direct result of the excessive support that the White House lavishes on them? Has anyone forgotten Washington's threats to reduce the funds it contributes to the United Nations because, in its view, that organization has become a center for subversion? The truth is that the United States would prefer a United Nations under whose banners such barbaric actions as the war against the Korean people and the assassination of Patrice Lumumba could be repeated, or an organization in which the international community would sanctify the abuses committed by the empire and its acolytes. In the imperialists' minds, there is no place for the idea that the world is changing, that each day the peoples are gaining greater awareness of their own power and that the actions carried out by a handful of aggressive lunatics cannot prevail over reason and justice.

The balance of forces at the United Nations is inexorably changing in favor of the most noble causes. This is why Washington can no longer have its own way through the use of all kinds of bribery and pressure. In recent years, the United Nations has been the site of serious battles waged by the peoples against the imperialist attacks and its dais has made it possible for prestigious popular leaders to proclaim their truths and strike at the common enemy. In short, the international community has been able to unmask the aggressors and plotters in the course of battles that undoubtedly strengthen the people's heroic struggles. This naturally upsets the United States and its followers. In responding as they do, however, they are increasingly isolating themselves from the rest of the world and revealing their true hegemonic pretensions. One sees the United States vetoing every progressive resolution introduced at the highest international forum and every sanction demanded against those regimes that violate all of the rules of international coexistence, thus contradicting the will of the majority [word indistinct].

As was pointed out during Perez de Cuellar's recent meeting with the Soviet leaders, the peoples' task is to expedite the use of UN authority as an instrument that serves international security and as a way to provide wise and just solutions to the grave problems currently affecting the world, which may otherwise lead to its total destruction.

CEMA WATERWORKS ECONOMIC CONFERENCE OPENS

FL140100 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 14 Sep 82

[Excerpt] The 29th CEMA conference of managers of waterworks economic organisations opened today at Havana's Palace of Conventions. The opening speech was delivered by Jose Lopez Moreno, vice president of Cuba's Council of Ministers and minister of construction.

GRENADA

EXTENSION OF IMF LOAN REPAYMENT PERIOD SOUGHT

FL131128 Bridgetown CANA in English 1523 GMT 12 Sep 82

[Text] St Georges, Grenada, Sep. 12, CANA -- The Peoples' Revolutionary Government (PRG) of Grenada has again reiterated its call for the world's major financial institutions to pay more attention to the preculiar economic difficulties faced by small developing states. The government-run station "Radio Free Grenada" said Grenada made the call at the just-concluded meeting of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank in Toronto, Canada.

The radio also stated that the delegation suggested that if the proposal was accepted and implemented by the fund it could have a positive effect on cocoa, nutmeg, banana, coconut and citrus farmers in the eastern Caribbean. The radio reported that the Grenada delegation which was headed by Deputy Prime Minister Bernard Coard urged the IMF to extend the repayment period of a special assistance programme of its compensatory fund facility from 3 to 5 years to a longer period of 7 to 10 years.

It said the delegation told the meeting that when small island states suffer crop losses from natural diasters such as floods, hurricanes and volcanic eruptions and receive loan assistance under the facility the repayment period, as stipulated by the IMF, was inadequate. The delegation pointed out that such an extension in the repayment period was necessary because it normally takes 5 to 10 years for some crops to recover and not 3 to 5 years as the IMF now requires, it added.

JAMAICA

SEAGA PLEASED WITH U.S. CARIBBEAN BASIN AID FUND

FL131205 Bridgetown CANA in English 2128 GMT 11 Sep 82

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, Sep 11, CANA -- Jamaica's prime minister, Edward Seaga, "has expressed satisfaction" that the fi: t moves towards the implementation of the U.S. Caribbean Basin Initiative (CBI) had been taken with the congressional overturn of President Reagan's veto of a bill containing 350 million dollars (US) in aid for Central America and the Caribbean. Had the veto not been overridden, the CBI aid package, from which Jamaica will get 50 million dollars (US), would have been attached to another bill and passed this month, Mr Seaga said in a statement issued here. Reagan had vetoed the 14.1 billion dollar supplementary appropriation bill primarily because it contained 918 million dollars in social welfare spending that the President did not want.

Mr. Seaga, who is expected to return home today from the United States where he went following the International Monetary (IMF) World Bank meeting in Toronto, said in his statement: "Either way, the 350 million dollar aid package would have been passed in the month of September." The statement added: "On behalf of the Government of Jamaica, I express satisfaction that the first step of approval to implement the provisions of the CBI now been effectively taken and I express the hope that the remaining provisions in trade aid and investment will also be approved soon."

The Jamaican prime minister said that the two other elements of the CBI -- a 12-year one-way free trade arrangement for most of the region's products, and incentives for U.S. companies to invest in the area -- should come to a vote in Congress near year-end or early next year. But these were not as urgent as the CBI aid provision, Mr Seaga said.

FOREIGN MINISTER MEETS ARGENTINE ENVOYS

FL102015 Bridgetown CANA in English 1853 GMT 10 Sep 82

[Excerpts] Kingston, Jamaica, Sep 10, CANA -- Jamaica has restated to Argentina its opposition to the use of force to settle disputes between nations, and said it was still in support of United Nations Resolution 502 calling on Argentina and Britain to seek a diplomatic solution in their quarrel over the Falkland Islands. Jamaica wanted to see a peaceful and satisfactory settlement of the issue and not have it "festering like a wound between the two countries," Foreign Minister Hugh Shearer has said.

According to the Foreign Ministry here, Jamaica's view was enunciated by Foreign Minister Hugh Shearer this week to two Argentine special envoys, Julio Carasales and Carlos Izzo Puebla. The two Argentine officials are seeking the English-speaking Caribbean's support for a resolution on the Falklands issue that Buenos Aires plans to table at the coming General Assembly of the U.N. The Argentine envoys had come to Kingston from the Bahamas and left yesterday for Barbados.

According to the Foreign Ministry, Mr Shearer told them that Jamaica's frowning on the use of force to settle disputes was in line with the policy position of the English-speaking Caribbean countries, and that this should be fully understood by the Latin American group to appreciate the sub-groups approach to the issue. The English-speaking Caribbean had largely backed Britain in the conflict, while America supported Argentina.

GENERAL NEISH ON OFFICIAL VISIT IN BERMUDA

FL131130 Bridgetown CANA in English 2107 GMT 11 Sep 82

[Excerpt] Hamilton, Bermuda, Sep. 11, CANA -- Jamaica's army chief Major General Robert Neish has been holding top level talks here on matters of mutual interest between the two islands. General Neish, here for 5 days making his first visit to Bermuda, yesterday met at Government house with Governor Sir Richard Posnett, commanding officer of the Bermuda Regiment, Lt Col Eugene Raynor and Acting Police Commissioner Clive Donald.

They did not go into detail on what was discussed. General Neish said they talked about "general items of mutual interest" and the part-time Bermuda regiments' training programmes in the Caribbean.

OPPOSITION SCORES OFFICIAL ECONOMIC POLICY

PA122251 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 12 Sep 82

[Text] The opposition People's National Party of Jamaica has denounced the country's serious economic crisis and urged Prime Minister Edward Seaga's government to stop its false announcements of recovery. A communique of the party led by Michael Manley stressed that after the last report issued by the Central Bank of Jamaica, the official statements about a return of confidence in the island cannot be sustained. The communique added that during Seaga's government, Jamaica's foreign debt has increased by $388 million and already amounts to $1.23 billion.

GOVERNMENT CONCLUDES DEAL TO BUY ESSO REFINERY

FL131910 Bridgetown CANA in English 1840 GMT 13 Sep 82

[By Paget Defreitas]

[Excerpts] Kingston, Jamaica, Sep 13, CANA -- The Jamaica Government is to pay 14 million (U.S.) dollars for the ESSO oil refinery here which it is taking over on October 1 with existing investories of petroleum products and crude already in refinery tanks, the Petroleum Corporation of Jamaica (PCJ) has announced.

The PCJ, the state oil company, concluded 10 months of negotiations with ESSO last Saturday night on the purchase price of the plant which has the capacity to refine up to 32,000 barrels of crude daily. However, ESSO, a subsidiary of the giant U.S. Transnational, EXXON Corporation, will continue its lube oil and marketing operations here without hindrance to expand these, according to the agreement.

PCJ Chairman Hugh Hart, in a statement on the purchase, said that during the negotiations the government had to make clear the following objectives:

That the refinery should be run on a strictly commerical basis requiring no subsidy either from government or ESSO, and, that foreign exchange outflows should be minimised as far as possible while securing the country guaranteed supplies of petroleum products at the lowest possible price.

"ESSO, on the other hand, wished to be assured of certain levels of profit on its invested capital commensurate with its shareholders expectations and its corporate policy." Mr Hart said.

It has not been announced how the government will finance the purchase of the plant, but press reports here last week said that it would seek funds from Venezuela.

ST LUCIA

UNIONS REJECT TRIPARTITE COMMISSION PROPOSAL

FL102150 Bridgetown CANA in English 2123 GMT 10 Sep 82

[By Guy Ellis]

[Excerpts] Castries, St Lucia, Sep. 10, CANA -- St Lucia Prime Minister John Compton's 4-months old government's effort to reach an accord with trade unions and the private sector here on formula for resolving the country's serious economic difficulties have suffered a major set-back. Representatives of the unions who met to discuss the issue on August 31 have now issued the text of a resolution which they adopted urging the government to shelve the tripartite consultative commission idea permanently.

Mr Compton had put forward the idea of the tripartite consultative commission to the unions and private sector on July 1, 7 weeks after his United Workers Party (UWP) had swept into power in general elections with 14 out of the 17 seats in the House of Assembly. He painted a bleak picture of the St Lucia economy with negative growth rate, high wage settlements, a 27 per cent unemployment level and a 264 million dollar (1 EC dollar: 37 cents U.S.) balance of payments deficit. Mr Compton called for the formation of a tripartite consultative commission on wages, prices, productivity and employment and advanced the need for price and wage restraint as one strategy to revive the island's battered economy. But there were early indications that the call for wage restraint would not be supported by the unions, three of which promptly urged "indefinite shelving" of the idea.

In the resolution passed at the August 31 conference, the outcome of which the unions had agreed to keep secret until yesterday -- they claimed that the government's plans to stimulate economic recovery within the framework of the proposed commission would not produce growth that would benefit St Lucia and its people. Further, they said, the provisions of the commission which the unions were being called to accept (particularly the idea of wage restraint) were inimical to the best interest of the workers and the trade union movement as a whole. They resolved, that "workers, through their organisations and trade unions, request the government to permanently shelve the proposal to form such a commission." The unions further decided that the government, private sector workers organisations and other concerned bodies consider "appropriate alternative measures to deal with the economic situation."

ECUADOR

UK COMMERCE MINISTER SEEKS TO EXPAND CONTACTS

PA131527 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1130 GMT 13 Sep 82

[Text] British Commerce Minister Peter Rees has been visiting our country since yesterday to strengthen Britain's political and economic ties with Ecuador and to express to our authorities and private sector his country's growing interest in cooperating with Ecuador's national and regional projects.

Rees is accompanied by his wife and by a retinue of financiers, advisers and contractors. He will be received by President Oswaldo Hurtado and by several cabinet ministers. He will also hold working meetings with officials at the Ecuadorean State Petroleum Corporation, the Ecuadorean Electrification Institute and Quito and Guayaquil municipalities, as well as with some private businesses.

NEW OIL FIELD TO PRODUCE 8,000 BARRELS PER DAY

PA121751 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1230 GMT 12 Sep 82

[Excerpt] Next week Ecuador will add 8,000 barrels of oil per day to its current 90,000-barrel per day production level, it was revealed in Quito today. The additional oil will be produced at the new (Zuzuki) field in the northeastern part of Ecuador, where the Ecuadorean State Petroleum Corporation has been exploring for oil for the last 2 years. The oil from the new field is graded between 28 and 32 on the API [American Petroleum Institute] scale. The additional 8,000 daily barrels are to be added to the 6,000 produced at the (Chuaras) field, which initiated production last August.

PARAGUAY

PAPER SAYS POLITICIANS' ATTEMPT NOT REPRESENTATIVE

PY131822 Asuncion HOY in Spanish 12 Sep 82 p 12

[By special correspondent]

[Text] Buenos Aires -- Although it may sound contradictory and despite the fact that they were not allowed to return, the members of the group which yesterday tried to return to the country from exile ended their attempt successfully. They had already achieved their objective before leaving the "Jorge Newbery" Airport in Buenos Aires, because international publicity (the ultimate objective of the operation) had been plentiful in the preceding days. The press agencies had lavishly reported on the attempt which was going to be carried out and the event was carried by newspapers of several countries.

Therefore, we were very surprised when we arrived at the Libertador Hotel in Buenos Aires last Friday for the NATIONAL ACCORD's press conference and we found no gathering of people -- not even a small gathering -- to show the support of the Paraguayan people in Argentina for the politicians who had announced their return. We were told that many people would go to the airport to support the travellers and wish them good luck. There were neither a lot nor a few people; apart from some relatives nobody saw them off.

This only confirmed the results of a hasty poll which we made on Friday night (after the press conference) among some Paraguayans living in Buenos Aires. The standard answer was: "Those gentlemen do not represent us, they are no longer convincing with their promises, speeches and requests for contributions. They cannot be denied the right to try and return to their homeland, but it is something they are doing for themselves, not on behalf of 1 million Paraguayans. The result of this poll really clashes with the wide coverage which the international media gave this event.